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VOLUME 1769-1774.

[These minutes are contained in a book of 176 pages which begins thus:]

“ Minutes of the American Philosophical Society, held at Philadelphia, for promoting useful Knowledge.”

“ Two societies having heretofore subsisted” [&c, as directed by previous order of December 20, 1768; see above].

1769. Jan. 2 [*Monday*]. *At the College.*

“ Present 89 members.”

“ The members being met in order to proceed to an Election of Officers agreeable to the article of Union, appointed Mr. Philip Syng & John Foxcroft Esq. to preside as Judges of the Election & the Rev^d Doctr. Willm. Smith & Charles Thompson to be Secretaries for the evening.

“ They then proceeded to ballot by each member giving in a list of such persons as he chose for Officers of the Society for the present year, and the Tickets being read over and the votes Counted the following Members of the Society were declared duly elected, viz.

“ President, Benjamin Franklin Esq^r LL.D.

“ Vice presidents, Doctr. Thomas Cadwalader

Doctr. Thomas Bond &

Joseph Galloway Esq^r

“ Treasurer, Mr. Philip Syng

“ Secretaries, Mr. Charles Thompson

The Rev^d Doct William Smith

Mr. Thomas Mifflin

The Rev^d Mr. John Ewing.

“Curators, Doctr. Adam Kuhn
Doctr. John Morgan
Mr. Lewis Nicola

“The President being absent Doctr. Thomas Bond was placed in the Chair and agreeable to the Articles of Union a Committee composed of the three Vice presidents was appointed to wait on the Governor and request him to be Patron of the Society.

“The Vice presidents are also desired to inform Dr. B. Franklin, now in London, of his Election.

Messrs S. Rhoads, Js. Pemberton, Ed. Shippen junr. Jas. Tilghman, Ed. Pennington, & G. Roberts with the four Secretaries, a Committee to draught Laws.—Adjourned to Monday, 16th at 6 P. M.

1769. Jan. 16. *At the College.* (Cadwalader, T Bond, Galloway, Tilghman, Pemberton, Syng, Rhoads, Foxcroft, Bringhurst, Clem. Biddle, Davidson, Nicola, R. S. Jones, Clarkson, Clark, Kuhn, Alexander, Pearson, Leveyz [*sic*], E. Pennington, Jos. Shippen, Jas. Allen, E. Biddle, Bartram, Worral, Okeley, Sellers, W. Shippen, Morgan, W. Shippen jun., Murgatroyd, Evans, Clifford, Aspden, Hollingsworth, T. Bond jun. & Morris, W. Smith, Ewing & Thomson, Secretaries.)

The Vice Presidents report that the Governor declined to be Patron.

Draught of Laws read & laid over “in the hands of Charles Thompson for the view of such members as please to peruse them.”

Sample of Chinese Vetches, six bottles of Soy and six pounds of powdered Sago, presented with a letter from S. Bowen of Georgia.

Sir W^m Johnson’s letter of thanks for membership.

D. Cirillo (of Naples) letter of thanks for being proposed for membership . . . “intimating that they have in Italy a great many trees, fruits & plants . . . of great use to

human life, & which may be easily introduced into America. That in the Kingdom of Naples are several plants very good for making artificial Grass, and especially one . . . *Hedysanum coronarium* . . . spring and summer . . . best grass . . . winter . . . very good hay.”—Adjourned to Friday, 20, 6 P. M.

1769. *Jan. 20. At the College. (37 present.)*

The Sago, Soy & Vetches “lately introduced into Georgia by S. Bowen” with his letter & description were “deferred until the laws were passed & the Committees formed.”

The Draught of Laws was read, debated & Articles 1 to 7, & 9 to 12 agreed to. The 8th relating to Curators was recommitted to Dr. Bond, the 3 Curators and 4 Secretaries, to frame anew.—Adjourned to 1st Friday of Feb’y, 6 P.M.

1769. *Feb’y 3. At the College. (24 present.)*

Article 8th was read, amended & added to the rest. “The whole as passed are as follows:”

1.

OF THE PAYMENTS TO BE MADE BY MEMBERS.

Every member of this Society shall subscribe Ten shillings yearly, to be applied by the Society to such purposes as they shall direct, and no member shall be entitled to a vote in the annual Election of Officers, unless it appears that he has paid into the hands of the Treasurer the subscription of the preceding year and all former arrears, if any there were.

Every member hereafter to be chosen agreeable to the laws of this Society shall pay Ten shillings admission money and also subscribe the yearly payment of Ten shillings before he is entitled to have any vote in the business of the Society at their meetings.

2.

OF THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

The Election of new members shall be by ballot, and that only on the third Friday in the months of January, April, July and October: and in order to such election at least Twenty members must be present.

Any member may at any meeting propose such person or persons as he

thinks proper to be a member or members of the Society ; but no person shall be balloted for, unless his name together with the name or names of the member or members, who proposed him has been filled up by the secretaries for the view of the Society at the two meetings preceding the time of election : nor shall any person be deemed duly chosen, unless three-fourths of the votes of the whole members met be in his favor.

3.

OF THE OFFICERS AND MANNER OF THEIR ELECTION.

The election of such Officers as are to be chosen in this Society shall be on the first friday in January every year by ballot on written ticket, between the hours of two and five in the afternoon, at such place in this city as shall be fixed by the Society at their previous meeting on the third friday in December every year, of which notice shall be given in the Gazette or such other publick papers as the Society shall order, at least one week before the day of election. Before opening the election the Company that shall have met at half an hour after two, shall appoint three members of the Society as judges of the election, and also two clerks or secretaries.

In case of an equality of votes for any Officer after casting up the ballots, the decision shall be by lots to be drawn by one of the Judges.

4.

OF THE PRESIDENT.

The President is to preside at all meetings, to preserve Order, to regulate the debates and to state and put questions agreeable to the sense and intention of the members.

5.

OF THE VICE PRESIDENTS.

In the absence of the President, his duty shall devolve on the vice presidents, so that they shall preside alternately at meetings : but if that vice president, whose turn it is to preside at any meeting should be absent, his place shall be supplied by any of the other vice presidents, who may be present according as they may be next in turn : if only one vice president be present, he shall of course preside : and if neither the President nor any vice president be present, the members met shall appoint one of their number to take the chair for that Evening.

6.

OF THE TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall receive the subscription of the members and all other monies that may become due to the Society, and shall pay the same

agreeable to their orders certified to him by the President, vice president, or member who was in the chair, when the order was made. He shall keep a regular account of all monies received and paid by him as aforesaid, and once every year or oftener, if required by the society, he shall render an account to them of the stock in his hands and the disbursements made by their order, and shall deliver up to his successor the books and all papers belonging to them, together with the balance of Cash in his hands, and for the faithful discharge of his trust he shall before he enters on his Office give bond and security to the president and vice presidents, in double the Sum which they or any three of them shall judge he may probably become entrusted with during his said Office.

7.

OF THE SECRETARIES.

The Secretaries shall so settle matters as to take equal shares of all business, and so as that two of them shall serve at every meeting viz one to take the minutes and one to read all letters and papers that may be communicated to the society. It is also the business of the two secretaries of each particular meeting to copy into the minute book the proceedings of that meeting in order to produce the same fair to the next meeting. They are further to copy into the proper books all such Letters, papers and essays as the society may think fit to preserve on record to have the same ready to lay before the next ensuing meeting. The other two secretaries, in the meanwhile are to give notice to new members of their election, and agreeable to the directions of the society to write or answer letters and in general to manage all matters of correspondence.

The secretaries may, for their own ease, change places so that the two who have served as corresponding secretaries for one month or limited time, shall take their turn to serve for the same time as sitting or attending secretaries.

8.

OF THE CURATORS.

The Business of the Curators shall be to take charge of and preserve all specimens of natural productions whether of the animal, vegetable or fossil kingdom, all models of machines and Instruments and all other matters and things belonging to the society which shall be committed to them ; to class and arrange them in their proper orders and keep an exact list of them with the names of the respective donors in a book provided for that purpose, which book shall be laid before the society as often as called for. The curators upon entering on their Office shall give such a receipt for every thing that is committed to their charge, as the society shall think proper, and at the end of the term shall deliver up the same to their suc-

cessors. For the faithful performance of their duty and of the trust reposed in them they shall give bond to the President and vice presidents in such a sum as they or any three of them shall require.

9.

OF THE MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

The ordinary meetings of the society shall be the first and third fridays of every month from October to May both inclusive at six o'clock in the evening, and on the third friday in each of the other four months at seven o'clock.

No meeting shall be continued after ten o'clock, nor any new matter be introduced by motion or otherwise after nine o'clock.

10.

OF THE DISPOSITION OF MONEY & MAKING NEW LAWS.

No part of the Society's stock shall be disposed of in premiums or otherwise, nor shall any new laws be made until the same have been proposed at one meeting and agreed to by two-thirds of twenty or more members present at a subsequent meeting.

11.

OF OTHER PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

No questions shall be put on a motion, unless the motion be seconded ; and the determination shall be by ballot instead of open suffrage, if desired by any four members. In case of equality of votes on any question the same shall be deferred to another meeting.

When any member speaks he shall stand up and address himself to the chair, and the rest shall remain silent in their seats. When two or more offer to speak at the same time, the presiding member in that as in other matters of order shall regulate and determine who shall speak first.

12.

OF COMMITTEES.

The members of this society shall be classed into one or more of the following committees.

1. Geography, Mathematics, natural philosophy & Astronomy.
2. Medicine and Anatomy.

3. Natural history and Chemistry.
4. Trade and commerce.
5. Mechanics and Architecture.
6. Husbandry and American Improvements.

These committees shall meet on their own adjournments and at such other times as the society shall appoint for the consideration of any matters referred to them, and shall have power to chuse [*sic*] their own chairman. But no committee as such shall take up any new business of the society, but shall confine themselves only to the subjects for which they are appointed and to matters referred to them by the society.

The Telescope being "speedily expected" it was ordered that Secs. Rhoads and Pemberton prepare an address to the Assembly on the occasion.

Dissertation on the method of destroying Wild Garlic, from H. Hollinsworth of Elk Ridge, was read & referred to the Com. of Husb. & Am. Improvements.

A sample of Asbestos from H. Hollinsworth was presented and delivered to the Curators.

An account of West Florida, by Daniel Clark, was read, "Mention being made therein of Doctor Larimore * who invented the universal magnetic needle, which gives the dip and variation at the same time, & who intends to observe the ensuing transit of Venus."

Ordered that the Secretaries answer M^r. Clark and request the favour of his Observations.

The Soy and Sago of S. Bowen were referred to the Com. Nat. Hist. & Chem., and the Vetches to the Com. Husb. & Am. Improvements.

"Agreed that at the next meeting, Committees be appointed to observe the transit of Venus."—Adjourned to Tuesday next, 6 P. M. at the College; notice of the extraordinary meeting to be published in the newspaper on Monday.

* Mentioned in the Proceedings of Feb'y 21, as *Dr. Lorrimore of Pensacola*.

1769, *Feby. 7, College.* (21 present.)

Draft of Address to the Assembly read, amended, altered & approved, as follows :

To the honourable the Representatives of the freemen of the Province of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met.

The humble address of the American Philosophical Society held at Philadelphia for promoting useful knowledge.

GENTLEMEN,

The kind reception which the late honourable house of Assembly, at their session in September, were pleased to give to the humble address presented to them by one of the Societies, whereof this Society is now composed, and the generous vote passed in persuance of that address, to purchase a reflecting Telescope with its proper apparatus for observing the ensuing transit of Venus, are evidences that the house were actuated by a laudable desire to promote useful knowledge and the reputation of their country : and therefore it was judged by the gentlemen, who presented that address, a duty incumbent on them to acknowledge, in the most public manner, the grateful light, in which this mark of favour and protection from the representatives of their country ought to be considered by every lover of science and useful arts in the province.

But as an union of two societies, which at that time pursued the same ends on different foundations, hath since happily taken place, and we are now, in our united state to share the common benefit of the assembly's generosity, we therefore beg leave, in the most humble manner, to express our grateful sense of the public countenance given by the late honourable Assembly to the designs, for which we are associated, and to request the continuance of the like favour and protection from your honourable house, in the further prosecution of those designs, so far as they may appear calculated to promote the public good.

It would be needless, on this occasion, to point out to you, how many and various benefits may accrue to any country, and especially to young colonies, from a society instituted on so extensive a plan as that of the American Society held at Philadelphia for promoting useful knowledge. The experience of ages shews, that by such institutions, arts and sciences in general are advanced ; useful discoveries made and communicated ; many ingenious artists, who might otherwise remain in obscurity, drawn forth, patronized and placed in public usefulness ; and (what is of great consequence to these young countries, especially in their present situation) every domestic improvement, that may help either to save or acquire wealth, may, by such means, be more effectually carried on. While such are our views, we flatter ourselves, we shall never solicit the countenance of the Assembly of Pennsylvania in vain.

We, therefore now beg leave to renew the request, that you would be pleased to make some further provision for carrying into execution the observation of the ensuing transit, which is an object of so much importance, that most of the civilized states in Europe appear to be desirous of lending assistance in it. As the use of the Telescope, under such directions as you may think proper, will be necessary as soon as it arrives, we farther pray, that leave may be given for erecting an Observatory in the State house ground; and that you would grant such public assistance, as you may think convenient, for erecting the same and also for making an observation of the transit, at least as far westward as Fort Pit [*sic*], which will be of great use compared with Observations, in this and other places more to the eastward.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Society.

Ordered, that the same be copied fair and signed by the vice president for the night, and presented to the Assembly.

Transit of Venus Committee: Ewing, Pryor, Shippen junr., Williamson, W. Smith, Rittenhouse, Lukens, Dickinson, Alexander, Owen Biddle, Pearson, Sellers, Thompson & Wm. Poole.

Secretaries ordered to prepare a rough draft of "a note or certificate to be sent to distant members to inform them of their election."

1769, *Feby.* 17, *College.* (23 present.)

Committees on Natural History & Chemistry, and on Husbandry & American Improvements were desired to meet at the College on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

Form of note or certificate of Election read and agreed to, viz.

"PHILADELPHIA.

"*Sir.* We are ordered to inform you that the American Philosophical Society held at Philadelphia for promoting useful knowledge, have chosen you a member & hope you will unite your endeavours with them in carrying their plan into execution.—Signed by order of the Society" &c.

Ordered 250 "on good paper with proper blanks."

V. P. Bond reported the presentation of the address to the Assembly by two of the Secretaries.

Observatory.—Agreed that Rhoads, Pennington, Rob. Smith & the Transit Committee, be a Committee to em-

ploy a workman & erect an Observatory for "a sum not exceeding £60," "if they cannot find among the houses belonging to the Assembly, one fit for the purpose."

A method of preserving Peas from the Bugs in a letter from Peter Miller.

"A computation of the cost of cutting a canal, &c., from the head of Chester River in Maryland . . . & the head of Duck creek . . into Delaware bay" was read and referred to the C. on A. Improvements.

"On the propagation of the Chestnut tree & the advantages resulting from it" was read and referred.

"An account of an *Aurora borealis* observed at Lancaster, Jany. 5, 1769" was read and referred to the C. on N. Philosophy.

The C. on the Transit of Venus "are desired to meet at the College on Monday evening in order to class themselves."

"Obs. on the Fur and Peltry trade in the district of Michilimackinac" by Maj. Rogers was postponed.

1769. *March 3. College.* (T. Bond; Pemberton, Kinnersley, Bradford, Tooke, Aspen, Morgan, Shippen, Shippen, Jr., Williamson, Powell, Drinker, Nicola, Fisher, C. Biddle, Wynkoop, Bringham, Jones, Clifford, Bartram, Gibson, James, Clarkson, Hollingsworth, Pearson & Roberts; Syng, Thomson, Smith, Secretaries.)

"It having been debated . . .

"*Resolved* . . . Reports of Committees, when brought in, shall be read Paragraph by Paragraph; and so much of such Reports as shall be agreed to by the members . . . present . . . or the majority . . . together with such additions or amendments as they may judge proper, shall be entered on the Minutes as the act of the Society. And the Original Reports, signed preserved . . ."

The S. Bowen's Communications Committee then reported, that thanks be returned, "especially for his ingenious account of the Chinese Vetches"

The Other Committee were recommended to "make some

experiments on" the respective qualities of the samples of Soy & Sago, & report.

Ordered that some . . . Vetches be distributed to . . . Pemberton, J. & J. Bartram, J. Morgan, J. Rhea, Abel James, T. Clifford, J. Gibson & G. Roberts."

The Committee reporting on Hollingsworth's letter about Wild Garlic, the letter was ordered to be prepared for publication "for the Benefit of Farmers &c together with the substance of the letter from Mr Peter Miller, giving some useful Hints for raising Pease free from the Bug;" and Members & Farmers were recommended to "make Trial of the Method" & communicate results.

The Committee on Chestnut Timber "not having had leisure fully to digest the matter" were to report again.

Sundry new communications were postponed.

1769. *March 17. College.* (Bond; Alison, Nicola, Jon. Smith, B. Davis, M. & G. Clarkson, Alexander, Bringhurst, Wells, Kinnersley, Clifford, Pearson, Pemberton, Fisher, Murgatroyd, Jones, Bradford, Kuhn, Williamson, Shippen Sen. & Jun.; Smith, Thomson, Ewing & Mifflin, Secretaries.)

Resolved, that the late Address to the Assembly be immediately published, with a copy of the Assembly's Resolution.

"Method of making Tea from the Red Root," in a letter from Dr Brook of Mallapany* was referred to the Committee on Natural History to report "& prepare a letter to Him with such Directions as they can give for Curing the Plant." To meet Thursday, 6 P. M.

1769. *April 7. College.* (Bond & 16 others.)

Committee on Brook's letter "not having been able to procure a Meeting," to be summoned by Mr Nicola to meet next Friday.

"Method of curing the Bite of the Rattle-snake, for which

* *Mattapany* ? The "t"s are not crossed and much resemble the "l"s.

Sampson, a negro, had got his Freedom and a Premium by Act of Assembly of Carolina" in a letter from Dr. Jas. Weems Moore of Charlestown [*sic*] S. C. was referred to the Med. Com. Thursday next.

Com. for Am. Imp. and for Trade & Commerce are appointed to meet "Monday Se'ennight, to digest the Papers now lying before the Society, for opening a Canal . . . ; to prepare a Scheme of application to the Merchants &c. of this city, for defraying the Expense of taking the proper Levels and examining what will be the best Place of cutting a Canal . . . & the probable Expense of Carrying the Design into Execution." Jones to summon the Committees.

1769, April 21. *College.* (Bond; & 30 others.)

Dr. Shippen to write to Dr. Moore.

Com. on the Canal reported a Draft of an Application to the Merchants &c. which was approved. Pennington [*sic*], Drinker, Rhea, Clifford & Jon. Smith, a Committee "to present the same to the Merchants," viz.

TO THE MERCHANTS AND OTHERS OF PHILADELPHIA :

"The American Philosophical Society, held at Philadelphia for promoting Useful Knowledge, have had sundry Proposals laid before them "for opening a Canal, between the Navigable Waters of Delaware & "Chesopeak Bays; representing that the same might be done in several "places, but particularly between the Heads of Bohemia and a Branch of "Apoquinimick, called Drawyer's Creek, where, upon an accurate "Mensuration, the Distance between the Tide-Waters of the One Bay & "the other is found to be but 12.00 Perches, or about $3\frac{1}{4}$ Miles. And it "having been further represented that the Execution of such an Undertaking would be of the greatest Benefit to the general Trade, both of "Pennsylvania and Maryland, as well by Opening an Inland Water Communication between them for a safe and easy Exchange of Commodities, "as by drawing the Produce of the rich and growing Settlements on Susquehannah and its Branches down that River to the Ports in Maryland, "to be from thence either immediately exported or sent to Philadelphia, "as Occasion might require.

"And lastly, it having been further recommended to the Society, as a "matter worthy of their Attention to appoint proper Persons to take the "necessary Levels, to compare the respective Times of high Water in both

“Bays at the Places proposed, and to examine which would be the best place for cutting such Canal, with the probable expense thereof.

“The Society, therefore, willing to encourage such a laudable Undertaking, as far as in their power, have agreed to appoint proper Persons for the Services aforesaid ; but as, in their present Infant State, their Funds are inadequate to such an Undertaking, they have found it necessary to make this application to the Merchants & others of Philad^a whose known public Spirit leaves no Room to doubt of their Readiness to assist in the Design ”

To the above Application was annexed the following

FORM OF SUBSCRIPTION, VIZ :

“We the Subscribers do hereby promise to pay the Sum respectively affixed to our Name, into the Hands of M^r. Philip Syng, or the Treasurer of the American Philos. Society, held at Philad^a &c for the Time being ; in Order to defray the Expense of taking the proper Levels, & examining which will be the best place for opening a Canal, between the Waters of Delaware & Chesopeak Bays.”

Com. of Nat. Hist. to be summoned by D^r. Kuhn to meet at the College, Friday, “to prepare Directions for Curing the Red-root Tea-plant.”

A letter from D^r. Lorrimer of Florida to D^r. Williamson was read & referred to C. of Nat. Philosophy for answer.

Election of New Members :—Rev^d D^r. Jno. Witherspoon, Prest. Coll. N. J. ; Rev^d D^r. Myles Cooper, Prest. Coll. N. Y. ; Col. Landon Carter, Va. ; D^r. Otto of Bethlehem ; M^r. Dan. Clark ; D^r. Lorimer [*sic*], Fl^a. ; D^r. Brooke, Md. ; D^r. Prime, N. Y. ; D^r. Jno. Jones, N. Y. ; M^r. S. Bowen, S. C. ; and Sam. Shoemaker, Esq. of Philadelphia.

1769. May 3. (Bond ; Thos. Pryor, M. Aspden, & 22 others.)

W. P. Syng, “agreeable [*sic*] to the Rules of the Society, delivered in his & E. Physick’s bond of £500, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his duty as Treasurer.” His account showed a ballance [*sic*] of £ 98 .. 14 .. 1. Bond delivered for keeping to T. Bond, v. p. and account to be audited by Mifflin & Thomson.

D^r. W. Shippen jun. to write to D^r. Moore.

The Merchants Committee reported that “they had con-

vened a number of the merchants" . . "the design was highly approved, and a Subscription was immediately begun, which already amounted to £140."

Messrs. Lukens, Clarkson, Sellers, & Rumsay "were appointed to go & examine which will be the most proper place for cutting the canal, to take the proper levels, to compare the respective times of high water on both bays & see whether a direct communication can be opened by a canal, or whether locks and dams are necessary, & if so, what head of waters to supply those dams, to make an estimate of the probable expense . . . & report . . . "

The Merchants Com. to thank the merchants, & ask them to add their own members to the Survey committee. "As it may be in the power of many gentlemen to lend assistance in the prosecution of the design, their countenance & concurrence will be gratefully Acknowledged by the Society."

"Types made by Abel Buel of Connecticut" were referred to T. Bradford to examine.

Com. N. Hist. desired to prepare directions for curing the red root Tea plant and report at the next meeting.

Transit of Venus Com. to meet at the College Monday evening "to prepare themselves for the observation and to send to the press some account of the instruments lately arrived."

1769. *May* 19. (Bond and 12 others.)

Auditing committee reported the accounts correct; also that

"The honorable House of representatives had generously granted the privilege of erecting the Observatory in the State house yard," and voted £100 for erection and observation, "to be paid to the Society's Treasurer;" also that

The Committee of Feby. 17th, "had agreed with Jas. Pearson to erect the Observatory to a plan delivered him, for . . a sum not exceeding £60." An order had been drawn on the Treasurer for £10 in advance for materials.

Balance now in Treasurer's hands £98 .. 14 .. 1, as per account following :—

To cash paid sundries before the late Union...	£7:8:5	By cash rec ^d entrance from 43 members before late Un.....	£16:2:6
April 14th, 1769, To d ^o p ^d Jas. Pearson & order.	10:0:0	1769, April 18th. By cash of Owen Jones by order of the Assembly of y ^e Prov.....	100:0:0
To ballance due to y ^e Socy.....	98:14:1		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	116:2:6		116:2:6

“C. Thomson & T. Mifflin are desired to request the favour of Mr. Bradford to collect the money subscribed for defraying the expense of examining the best place . . . between Delaware & Chesapeake bays, and . . . to pay . . . to the Society's Treasurer.”

The Com. reported that the Merchants had nominated Jos. Ellicot, Rich. Silliforth, W. Killen & J. Stapler to join in the examination.

“Com. of N. Hist. are continued on the service to which they were appointed last meeting.”

Owen Biddle reported that the Transit Com. had met “& classed themselves for the service; that Mr. Luken's public and private engagements not permitting him to attend the making an observation on the western line and there being no other found, who was willing to undertake it, the observation . . . there was dropped; that it was agreed to observe at Philadelphia, at Norrington, and at the Capes;” that Shippen, Ewing, Prior & Williamson would observe at Phil^a; Dr. Smith, Lukens, Sellers, & Rittenhouse at Norrington; & Owen Biddle at the Capes, using the telescope generously granted him by “the library company of Philadelphia,” taking an assistant, & setting out “in a day or two.”

“The Society agree to defray the expences of O. Biddle & his assistant . . . an order is drawn on the Treasurer . . . for £20.”

Bond and Rhoads to ask the Speaker of the Assembly to return thanks for the Society.

Treasurer desired to pay out of the money rec^d from the merchants such sum as the Canal Committee shall draw for expenses while on that service.

Pearson, having finished the Observatory, wanted money ; the vice president was desired to draw for him £40.

“ Adjourned to meet here to-morrow evening at 5 o’clock.” Secretaries to notify members.

1769. *May 20. On adjournment.* (Bond & 27 others.)

The classification of observers was approved.

“ The Society next enquired how the several Observers were to be furnished with proper instruments, and were informed by Mr. Ewing that Mr. Jos. Shippen intended to use a small reflecting Telescope belonging to the hon^{ble} Prop^s; . . . Mr. Pryor had a good reflecting Telescope of his own . . . That it was proposed to apply to Miss Norris for the use of a large refracting Telescope in her possession for Dr. Williamson . . . he himself [Mr. Ewing] . . . with the Telescope belonging to the Assembly of the Province ; that Mr. Prior had furnished a good Time piece : & that they had a transit or equal altitude Instrument and a sector belonging to the hon^{ble} Prop^s, which were fitted up at the Observatory for ascertaining the true Meridian, adjusting the Clock, &c.”

“ That at Norrington Mr. Rittenhouse had a good time piece, an equal altitude Instrument, and a refracting Telescope ; that a new reflecting Telescope with a micrometer was just arrived, which the hon^{ble} Proprietaries had generously purchased and sent over on the occasion, & which they desired to present to the College. Besides these they had one or two refracting telescopes which they intended to fit up for the purpose.

“ That Mr. Biddle had a time piece and equal altitude

Instrument of his own . . . & the Library Company . . . had granted him the use of their large reflecting Telescope."

Ewing, Williamson and C. Thomson to wait on Miss Norris to request the use of her Telescope.

A short paragraph from Franklin's letter read, thanking for his election.

Letter from the Speaker of the Assembly to Dr. Bond (& Mr. Rhoads.) "Sir, agreeable to the request of the philosophical society the house of Assembly have ordered that they have the use of the Telescope &c The Assembly have not as yet made any further order . . . but propose to do it before they adjourn Jos Galloway."

Survey committee, on motion, was requested to examine "the ground between French town on Elk and New Hamburg on Delaware."

"A model of a new invented wind mill" received from Mr. Gilpin, was referred to the C. of Mechanics and Architecture, to meet next Friday evening to examine it & report.

"A bag of Berry seed" from J. Maris, with a letter stating that it "produces an Oyl equal in quality to Florence oyl, some say preferable; that its produce is amazingly great." Planted 10 seed to a hole. 3 feet apart; plants to be thinned out, leaving 3 or 4 in a hole; grows in pods & gathered full grown & dry. Isaac Bartram to experiment with some, & the rest to be distributed among the members to plant. Thanks voted to Mr. Maris.

"Agreed, that application be made to the Assembly for a lot of ground in the state house square, whereon to build a house to accommodate the Society."—Bond, James, Clifford, Thomson, committee to draft the petition.

1769. *June 16.* (Bond & 31 others)

Mr. Gale's letter of inquiry about Abel Buel's types, read.

Canal committee reported "We have viewed the ground, taken the level and surveyed the distance between the tide waters in Bohemia and Anaquimiy Rivers, & have likewise essayed a calculation of the ex-

pense that will attend the cutting of a canal, which we are of opinion may be executed with Locks, for . . £40,000.

"The depth of earth from the highest ground to the level of Navigation being very great, we have declined making any estimate of what the cost might be, to make a clear passage from River to River, as the expense would greatly exceed the mode on which our calculations are formed.

"For a particular account of our work and the calculations we have made, we beg leave to refer the Society to the plans of the Survey and elevation herewith laid before them." Signed June 16. 1769. Lukens, Sellers, Clarkson.

Report &c referred to C. for Am. Improvements.

Thos. Gilpin, one of the Merchants' appointees exhibited "a plan of a canal & elevation . . between Chester river & Duck creek, with an estimate"—for flat bottomed boats, carrying 1000 bushels, £8050; for shallops &c., £28,298.—Referred.

Report that Miss Norris' telescope had been placed in Dr. Williamson's hands. Thanks ordered, and the Telescope to be sent home safe.

Building committee continued. [No report.]

Transit Committee at Philadelphia reported "that they had met frequently . . . to adjust their instruments & to remove every local obstruction . . . On the day of the transit they assembled at the Observatory in the morning and took the passage of the sun's eastern & western limbs over the cross hairs of the transit Instrument, that they might be compared with the like observations made at the same altitudes of the sun in the afternoon, to discover the error of the clock & the time of apparent noon. This observation was frequently made before the day of the transit and repeated for several days after. Every observer being fixed at his telescope —"

[Here follows the description of the observations occupying 4 pages. The report of the Committee elaborated by Dr. Ewing may be seen in Trans. A. P. S. 1st Series, Vol. 1, pp. 42 to 89.]

"Mr. Owen Biddle . . Cape Henlopen . . . laid before the society a diary containing a particular account of his & his assistant Mr. Joel Bailey's Observations as follows" [in 5½ pages, which were elaborated & published in Trans. A. P. S., 1st series, Vol. 1, pp. 89 to 97.]

"The Vice presidents and secretaries are appointed to pre-

pare a sketch of the Institution and design of the Society to digest the several papers, which have been laid before it and to prepare the whole for the inspection of the Society in order for their publication." [See Preface to Trans. Vol. 1.]

"Chas. Thomson read a letter . . from John Jones of Indian river, wherein he mentions his having discovered several species of Grapes in his neighborhood."—Referred to C. on American Improvements.

1769. June 30. (Cadwalader, V. P.; & 14 others.)

Report of C. on Am. Imp. That thanks be given to the surveyors of the Bohemia & Apoginimy line, "But as some other places have been mentioned as suitable for opening a communication . . . and as it is of great importance that the best place be fixed on . . . the same gentlemen are desired . . . to examine the ground between Elk & Hamburg and between Elk & Christiana creek, and . . . then to take the level of that place which seems the most favourable & make an estimate . . ."

That Messrs Lukens, Sellers, Clarkson, Silliforth & Stapler be allowed "15 sh. per day for the time they were engaged, which was seven days," & expenses, total £ 44 .. 11 .. 11.

That the drafts & remarks of the committee be carefully preserved among the papers of the Society.

"That the thanks of the Society be given to Thomas Gilpin for his service & time generously devoted to the public as well in the mensuration & levels taken by him from Chester Run to Duck creek as in the drafts of the land between the heads of those creeks the plan of a canal & estimate of the costs with remarks thereon, all which are to be carefully preserved among the society's papers."

"That as J. Sellers has been at the expense of getting a curious levelling Instrument of a new construction made for this particular service the sum of 50 sh. be allowed him in part pay for the same provided he will grant the society the use of the instrument as oft as they shall have occasion for it."

Com. to collect merchants' subscription ordered to make the merchants a report "& solicit [*sic*] payment of the subscriptions."

Com. on Buel's types reported the metal good, "& that they doubt not he will correct the defects that appear . . . different sizes, standing out of line, & the impression of some

being too faint." Thanks ordered "for his spirited and useful undertaking" & "that a specimen of Caslon & Son be sent him for his imitation."

A treatise on the culture of the vine by E. Antill, was referred to the Committee on American Improvements.

A letter on the medicinal uses of Apocymum from Dr. Mercer, was read.

A letter on the Constitution of the Air, its effects on the human body &c from Dr. Elmer of Bridgetown was read.—Both referred to Medical Committee.

Certificate of Morrice Pound relative to the quantity of Vines he had planted & has now growing, referred to C. on American Improvements.

1769. *July 20. College.* (Bond; Peter Miller of Ephrata, & 17 others.)

Added to Com. on Sketch of the Institution & Design of the Society—D^{rs}. Allison [*sic*], Williamson, Redman, Morgan, Shippen jun., Kuhn, & Messrs Bartram, O. Biddle, Pemberton, Drinker, Jon. Smith, Rhoads, Tilghman, Rhea—"to meet here next Monday evening."

Order on the Treasurer for £20, for Rittenhouse's expenses; £3 .. 17 .. 6, for Lukens' expenses; £11 .. 9 .. balance of £31 .. 9 due O. Biddle for expenses.

A draft of the River Mississippi from the mouth up to fort Chartres, from actual surveys. [surveyor unknown.]

A draft of the River Mobile [*sic*] from the bay of Mobile to Fort Tombecbe [Tombecbe?] 96 leagues, from actual surveys by Philip Pilman in 1767.—Both drafts delivered to Dr. Williamson by M^r. D. Clark, with a request to present them to the society.

The Med. Com. report "on several matters," unsigned, was returned to the Com. for signature.

Transit obs. at Norriton. "Dr. Smith laid before the Society the following account of the observations of the transit of Venus by the Committee at Norriton."

[It occupies 23 pages, & is to be found in Trans. A. P. S. Vol. 1. pp. 8 to 42.]

“Rev^d Mr. Ewing delivered in the following paper containing observations and calculations made from the late transit viz.” [here follow 4 blank pages intended to engross what is published on pp. 5 to 8 of Trans. Vol. I.]

1769. Aug. 18. *College*. (Syng, chairman & 17 others.)

Com. to prepare transactions for the press reported “that they had met several times & agreed upon a number of papers . . . viz.” [1½ blank pages, intended for the list.]

Bond, Smith, Ewing, Thomson, & Mifflin, made a Committee “to superintend & correct the press.”

On the Culture of the Currant shrub & a receipt for making currant wine from Mr. J. Okely of Bethlehem, read.

An essay on the culture of hemp, with a letter from the hon^{ble} Mr. Antle of Shrewsbury, read.

1769. Sep. 15. (Bond, W. Shippen, D. Evans, B. Wynkoop, Dr. Kuhn, E. Kennersly [*sic*], J. Davidson, R. S. Jones, Dr. Clarkson, J. Lukens, E. Duffield, Dr. Redman, L. Nicola, M. Aspden, Dr. Williamson, J. Ewing, W. Smith.)

“Dr. Williamson delivered to the Society a paper, in which he endeavored to explain the Theory of the motion of the Comets, the Probability of their being inhabited, and to account in a new Way for the appearance of their luminous train on their near approach to the sun.”—Referred to Com. of Ast. to meet Monday, 6 P. M. at the College, and publish it if they think proper without reporting.

Smith & Ewing “to agree with Mr. Duffield to make a timepiece for the use of our Observatory in a plain & cheap manner.”

1769. Oct. 6. (Bond, Dr. Cowpar of N. York, Evans, Coombs, Pemberton, Kinnersly [*sic*], Duffield, Clarkson, Smith (W.), Ewing, Thompson.)

Com. reported Duffield's clock to be ready for the ensuing transit of Mercury.—Venus Transit Com. appointed to observe Mercury; T. Coombe added.—“If any other Members . . . have Telescopes, it is hoped they will employ them . . . & communicate their Observations . . .” Persons so intending, to meet at the Observatory, Wednesday night, to class themselves & prepare.

Rev^d J. Ewing & Joel Bailly [*sic*] added; to proceed with all convenient speed.

“Advertisement for specimens of the different clays to be sent to the Society” ordered.

“On the Bristol Chalybeate waters;” letter from Dr. J. Denormandie, read & referred to Med. Com. “to meet this day week & report.”

1769. Oct 20. (Bond, Nicola, Rhoads, Gibson, Jones, Williamson, Hollingworth, Clarkson, Kinnersly [*sic*], Ritzenhouse, W. Smith, Ewing, Thomson, Bond jur.)

No quorum for election of new members; election “deferred 'till the next quarter day.”

Mercury transit Com. to meet at the Obs. 21st 4 P.M.

Canal Com. meet at Obs. 21st 4 P. M. to “fix the time for setting out on that service.”

Med. Com. to meet at Mr. Byrn's, Friday, 6 P. M.

“Agreed, That after every meeting an account be published in the newspapers, of all the papers laid before the Society.”

“On cutting & gathering the Bene seed;” letter from John Morel of Geo. read.

1769. Nov. 3. (Alison chairman; Ewing, Thomson, Rhoades, Kinnersley [*sic*], Clarkson, Jones jun., Jon. Smith, Davidson, Pierson, Williamson, Duffield.)

Mercury Com. reported progress.

Canal Com. reported themselves ready to set out on the 13th.—Copy of minute of appointment for them ordered.—Order on the Treasurer for £40 for their expenses.—“They

are also to examine the ground between the Head of Duck Creek & Chester River, & to take the level of it if they should judge necessary."

Med. Com. reported on Denormandie's paper on the Bristol Waters; ordered for publication in the Transactions.

Advertisement for clays to be "deferred for some time."

Pierson's account for building the Observatory & sundry other services, "referred to the examination of the gentlemen who made the agreement with him," Tuesday next.

1769. Nov. 17. (Galloway; Bond, Williamson, Dr Harris, Rhoades, Alexander, Evans, Bradford, Kennersley [*sic*], Duffield.)

Mercury Com. reported "That they had opportunity of making accurate observations, the Result of which should be laid before the society at next meeting."

Levi Hollingsworth & Gilpin "particularly requested to attend the Com. appointed to make the Survey & Levels between the waters of the Chesopeak [*sic*] & Delaware."

1769. Dec. 1. (Bond; Redman, Williamson, Morgan, Rhoades, Fisher, Pierson, Jones, White, Kennersley, Syng, Coombe, Dav. Evans, Dr Shippen; Ewing, Thomson, Dr Smith.)

Treasurer Syng reported "£40 from the Merchants of this City," per Mr Bradford "being a further Part of their generous Contribution towards examining the most practicable places for opening a Canal . . . And as some of the Committee named for this service have not been able to attend the following Gent are now appointed . . . & earnestly requested to proceed on the Business without Loss of Time, viz.—Messrs. Rhodes, Ewing, Hollingsworth, Gilpin, Stapeler, J. Bailey [*sic*] & Sittiforth, or any four of them." The President signed an order for £40, to pay to Mr Rhoads, for expenses.

"An Improvment [*sic*] on the Construction of Hadley's

Quadrant, with a proper mathematical Figure & Demonstration of the Truth of the proposed Construction" communicated by Mr. Ewing; "which he is desired to publish among the Transactions of the Society."

1769. Dec. 15. (Bond; Pemberton, Kinnersley [*sic*], Coombe, Drinker, Hollingsworth, Evans, Fooks, Nicola, Rhodes, Aspden, Morgan, Williamson; Smith, Ewing, Thomson.)

Canal Committee.—Two being present, reported "That the uncertain Season of the Year, and the Swamps be full [*sic*] of water, had deterr'd them from proceeding on that Service; but as soon as the Winter should set in, & the Swamps be frozen over, they would immediately proceed." Jos. Gilpin added to the Committee; to be informed of this by Mr. Hollingsworth.

Rev^d Mr. Maskelyne, Astronomer Royal had written to T. Penn, respecting some account he had received of the Observations on Venus; Penn sent a copy of the letter to Sec. Dr. Smith:—"Greenwich, Aug. 2. 1769.—Sir. I thank you for the account of the Pennsylvania Observations which seem excellent and compleat [*sic*]; and do Honor to the Gentlemen who made them [The letter occupies a page, and expresses a hope of finding the Sun's Parallax, by comparing the Amer. & Europ. Observations "nearer than we could depend upon from the Transit of 1761."]" "I do not yet know whether the Obs. made by Messrs. Mason & Dixon in Pennsylvania will suffice to settle the Longitude of Philad^a to the exactness here requisite. I wish, therefore, to receive the Observations of the Eclipses of Jupiter's Satellites made there in the Spring of this year, of which Dr. Smith makes mention I wish, also, . . . the Difference of Latitude & Longitude between the Philadelphia Observatory and the two others at Norriton & the Capes of Delaware, and also how much the State house Square differs from the Southern point of the City of Philadelphia to which Messrs. Mason & Dixon have referred their Observations." "I beg

your acceptance of the inclosed account of my Observations of the Transit and Eclipse of the Sun, June 3^d . . . Several Phænomena noted at *Norriton*, agreed with those observed here; but they have further observed a curious Circumstance at the first entrance of Venus, wch the low altitude of the Sun, did not permit me to observ here; as, on the other Hand, some Phænomena were noted here, wch they have not taken notice of." [For Maskelyne's Obs. see Trans. A. P. S. Vol. I, pp 105 to 114.]

[Then follows half a page of "Immersion & Emersion of Jupiter's Satellites, observed at Greenwich."]

Smith, Ewing & Williamson, a Committee to draw up an account of the Transits of Venus & Mercury to be communicated to the Astronomers in Europe, to be transmitted to Dr. Franklin, as President.

"A note was given in by Mr. Nicola to be added to his Piece, on preserving Subjects in Spirits &c."

Advertisement in the Newspapers of the Annual Election, at the College, Jan'y 5, 2-5 P. M. ordered, "& also notifying the Rule relative to the annual Payments to be made by the members before they can be admitted to a Vote."

PROCEEDINGS ANNO 1770.

1770. *Jan. 5.*

Election of officers: Ben. Franklin, President.

Jos. Galloway, Dr. T. Bond, Sam. Rhoades, Vice Presidents.

Rev^d Dr. W. Smith, C. Thomson, T. Mifflin, S. Roberts, Secretaries.

Dr. Isaac Bartram, Dr. B. Rush, O. Biddle, Curators.

Philip Syng, Treasurer.

A letter from Franklin "relative to the Culture of Silk in this Province" was read and referred to the Com. on Husb. & Am. Improvements.

“Dr. Ewing was respectfully requested to continue his best assistance in digesting and Publishing the Transactions of last year.”

“A new Invented Leather Bowl, made by B. Peters was presented.”

1770. *Jan.* 19. (Rhoads & Bond, V. P.—23 members & W. Smith, Sec. = 26.)

Election of new members:—Dr. Fothergill, Mr. Ed. Nairne, & Mr. Jas. Ferguson of London; Dr. Hahn, Prof. Chem. Univ. Utrecht; Lord Sterling of N. Jersey; Mr. John Morell of Georgia; Mr. Guald, Surveyor of W. Florida; Mr. Joel Bailey of Chester Co. Pa.; Mr. Jos. Ellicot [*sic*] of Bucks Co. Pa.; & Mr. Jos. Gilpin of Cecil Co. Md.

Com. on Silk Culture reported, that they had met twice & “prepared the Heads of a scheme” which was read and approved & the Com. was “empowered to digest & lay the scheme before the . . . Assembly, & to pray their assistance in Carrying it into Execution, as being the natural Patrons of every Undertaking wch requires the public Countenance & Encouragement.”

Canal committee recommending Mr. Joseph Horatio Anderson, he being present “agreed in a very obliging manner to attend the Com. whenever they should be prepared to set out; & it was earnestly recommended to the Committee to embrace the present opportunity of the frosty Season to proceed on their work.”

1770. *Feby* 2. (Bond & Rhoads. V. P.; Sam. Purveyance [*sic*] & 22 other members; Smith & Thomson Secs. = 27.)

Secretaries ordered to notify newly elected members.

Com. on Silk Culture read their “Form of Representation and Petition to the House of Assembly” which they thought had better go from the whole Society rather than from the Committee.

“To the Honorable” &c—“The Representation or Petition of” &c—“Sheweth—That [Here follows four paragraphs of preamble ending] it is therefore proposed—

“1. That a public Filature be established at Philadelphia (and afterwards at . . . other places in the Province) for winding Cocoons ; . . . managers appointed . . . Cocoons belonging to all who may chuse to work up their own Silk”

“2. That to encourage all Persons to cultivate Mulberry trees, raise Silk-worms & bring their Cocoons . . . managers to pay . . . during 5 years, the Current Price . . . in Georgia ; and . . . at the rate of 25 per cent on the value for all Cocoons . . . ; & besides . . . bestow the following yearly *Premiums*, viz, for 1770, £15 to the Person who shall raise . . the greatest quantity . . . not less than 30,000 ; & £10 . . . next greatest quantity, not less than 20,000. In 1771, £ 15 . . . 40,000 and £10 . . . 30,000, In 1772, £15 . . . 50,000, and £10 . . . 40,000. In 1773, £15 . . . 60,000 £10 . . . 50,000, and in 1774, £15 . . . 70,000, and £10 . . . 60,000 . . . Cocoons raised in the Province.

“3. That to enable the managers to pay the aforesaid Premiums, establish the Filature, purchase Cocoons & employ Servants for the work, it seems necessary that a sum not less than £500 p. annum should be appropriated during the aforesaid Term of five Years.”

“The Society therefore Pray—That the Hon^{ble} House of Assembly . . . nominate & appoint proper managers . . . to receive out of the Provincial Treasury the aforesaid yearly sum, & . . . all Silk . . . with the Floss, be exposed to public Sale from time to time” &c. &c.

“If the Society . . meets with . . . encouragement from the House it is proposed to write immediately to Georgia and Carolina for . . . Eggs, to distribute” “All which” &c. Signed Thomas Bond, Samuel Rhoads V. P.

[The next page is occupied by an extract from Franklin’s letter to Dr. Evans, about Silk Culture.]

Address & letter approved, and ordered to be signed by the Vice Presidents ; Bond, Pemberton, Drinker, Pennington [*sic*], Redman, Evans, Alison, Smith & Thomson appointed to present them to the Assembly.

Com. for Am. Imp. reported “that they have met lately at the House where the Union Library was kept,” & think “it would be a fit Place for the meetings of the Society, & for the Keeping the Cabinet.”—Pemberton, Clifford, Is. Bartram & O. Biddle “were appointed to call on the Directors

of the Philadelphia Library Company to know the lowest Terms on which they will rent the House."

Duffield's account £15, .. 17 .. 6 for the clock was ordered to be paid, the Com. reporting "that they think the work good & the charge reasonable."

Canal Committee "being this evening returned—Report that they had view'd and leveled . . . thro Red-lion Creek in the Bite of Newcastle to the Tide waters of Elk River; and also from Christiana Creek to the said Elk River, and find it practicable to make a good Canal the first way, and a Canal for Barge-navigation the second, and . . . also . . . from . . . Peach Bottom Ferry along the line dividing Penn^a & Maryland, to Christiana Creek, & find that a good Road may be made; but had not had Leisure to draw up a Regular Report."

1770. *Feby* 16. *College*. (Bond, Rhoads; Alison, Davidson, Jones, Clarkson, Rhea, Bryan, Jon. Smith, Bringhurst, Is. Bartram, Moses Bartram, Hollingsworth, Aspden, Sellers, Lukens, Worrall, Drinker, Purviance, Pemberton, White, D^r. Shippen, Evans; Thomson, W. Smith.)

Com. to present the Address, reported, that it "was received by the House in a very Kind manner" and read by the Clerk. The Com. laid before the House specimens of this Country Silk in cocoon, skain, knit & woven. The House seemed well satisfied and would probably "take some effectual method to encourage & establish the scheme."

The Directors of the Library Co. were reported as fixing £25 as the lowest rent for the Library Room, "which being thought too high, & the Room otherwise judged inconvenient on several accounts, it was unanimously agreed *not to rent the House*."

Com. on Amer. Imp. were "desired to continue every method in their Power for informing the members of Assembly, of the nature & Practicability of the Scheme . . . for promoting the Culture of Silk, and to make the best

Estimate they can of the Expence of establishing the Filature & employing the necessary Hands."

Canal Com. "returned their Report as follows, viz. See the Original Reports in the Society's Papers. [Two pages evidently left blank for its engrossment.]—Thanks were returned to the Com. for their zeal in this service at so inclement a Season of the year & their skill & assiduity . . ." They, together with Pemberton, Drinker, Fisher & Bryan, "are desired to lay all the Canal Papers before the merchants . . & to assure them that the Society will lose no Time in procuring the proper Estimates."

1770. *March 2.* (Rhoads; & 13 others.)

Com. of Amer. Imp. reported "That they had drawn up a Paper setting forth the public advantages" of the Silk Culture, & probable expense, & been permitted to read it in the House to the greatest part of the members, after the speaker had quitted the chair; the plan had been fully discussed; they had reason to think the House would make some suitable provision &c. This paper was ordered to be preserved.

"The Com. appointed to look for a proper Place for their future meetings, report that the Rev^d Mr. Peters was willing to rent the *Church School-house* at £12 per annum, & that they think it a proper Place. Referred to next meeting."

A letter from M^{rs}. Sabina Rumsey to C. Thomson, On the Culture of Silk, was read and ordered to be published. "Continuance of her correspondence" requested.

Com. on Pearson's account reported "that they had settled the Ballance [*sic*] due him at £24 .. 17, for which an order was given him on the Treasurer."

"A map of part of Pennsylvania & Maryland intended to shew, at one View, the several places proposed for opening a communication between the waters of the Delaware & Chesopeak Bays" laid before the Society by W. T. Fisher; to be kept among the Society's papers for future use. "In

this Map is also delineated the different Roads proposed to be opened for Land Carriage from Susquehannah" [*sic*].

Canal survey accounts of Mr. S. Rhoads, £56 · 6 · 10½.

1770. *March 16.* (Rhoads, V. P. in the chair; Pemberton, Jones, Coombe, Fisher, Clifford, I. Bartram, Pennington [*sic*], Rhea, Jon. Smith, Bradford, Davidson, Alison, Rush, Williamson, Duffiel [*sic*], Morgan, Dr. Smith, Sec.)

School-house rented for the meetings of the Society. Pemberton, Clifford, Coombe, I. Bartram, a Committee "to provide Candles, Firewood, Benches, Tables and other necessary Furniture, at as moderate a rate as they can."

Mr. Fisher reported that all the Merchants had not yet seen the Canal-papers. Ordered, that all papers & accounts be collected & laid before the Com. of Am. Imp. to be examined before the next meeting.

"A scheme for encreasing the Cabinet of Natural Curiosities" from the Curators, was read and returned for some alterations against next meeting.

"A remarkable case of a *Tetanus* cured by amazing quantities of Opium, written by Dr. Gloster,* was communicated by Dr. Morgan, & referred to the Medical Committee . . ."

1770. *April 6.* "At the School-house in 2nd street." (Bond, Rhoads, V. P.; Clifford, White, Alexander, O. Biddle, Allison [*sic*], Jones, Clarkson, Coombe, Ewing, Rush, Morgan, Williamson; Smith & Thomson, Secs.)

Order drawn on the Treas. for £16 · 6 · 10½ in favour of Rhoads.

Com. to provide candles &c. continued.

Mr. Fisher, sent a message to the Society, asking the appointment of an evening meeting of the Com. of Am. Imp. that he might lay before them the Canal-papers, with observations.—Next Friday evening fixed; to be notified in the newspapers.

Medical Committee report that the case of *Tetanus* cured in Antigua, "is the most extraordinary instance of the kind ex-

* Spelled *Gloucester* at the meeting when elected, January 18, 1771.

tant in the annals of medical literature . . . deserves a place in the Transactions . . . and may prove a valuable publication as it sets forth the safety & advantage of a freer use of Opium than has been common in violent spasmodic complaints."

Susquehanna Survey.—"Cha. Thompson informed the Society that S. Wallace had offered to make an accurate survey of the River Susquehanna [sic] from Peach bottom upwards, provided the Society will defray his expenses while about the work.

"Dr. Williamson, who has navigated the River Susquehanna for about 120 miles above Harris' [sic] informed the Society that from the observations he had made, the navigation of that River is capable of great improvements.

"As the Navigation of that River is of great importance to this province the proposal of Mr. Wallace is referred to the consideration of the Com. of Am. Imp. & Dr. Williamson is desired to communicate his observations to the said Com. to report thereon."

David Evans resigned his membership.

Curators report not ready.

1770. *April 20*. (Bond, Rhoads, O. Biddle, Jon. Smith, Gilpin, I. Bartram, Jones, Rush, Dr. Shippen.)

Committee "to get the Hall in proper order," continued.

No report of Com. on Canal-papers.

Curators reported for consideration, proposals "for encreasing the Cabinet."

1. All Merchants, Army Officers, Ship Captains & others be requested through "the Newspapers in each Colony on the Continent" to collect, & transmit new & curious plants, animals & fossils to the Curators.

2. Names of donors inserted in the Books and public acknowledgment made of worthy donations.

3. Power given the Curators to write to foreign members and others to solicit assistance in completing the museum; letters to be first submitted.

4. "That orders be given to the members, to deliver all the effects of the Society which belong to the Cabinet to the Curators, as many things have been intrusted to the care of the members which have never yet been delivered up to the Society."

"Should the Society . . . comply . . . a plan will be established which will in a few years procure a collection worthy of the care of the Society."

The Committee's Advertisement was read and referred to the Com. N. H., the Presidents & Secretaries, to meet at the Hall, this night week, to prepare a report.

Seal.—"Whether one should be provided . . . was carried in the affirmative by a large majority."—Paschal, Thomson, Rush & O. Biddle, a Com. to prepare a device.

1770. *May 4*. (Prest. Sam. Rhodes [*sic*]; Okely, Drinker, Jones, M. Bartram, Fisher, Clarkson, Jon. Smith, Wyncoop [*sic*], Duffield, Williamson, Bradford, I. Bartram, Ewing, Bailey, Clifford, Bringhurst, W. Smith, O. Biddle, Thomson.)

Canal Com.—"Whole expenses" £128 · 11 · 5; all paid except £3 · 17 · 8 due Gilpin, £6 · 15 due Bailey, & £5 due Stapler; orders signed by the V. P. for said amounts.

Com. on Am. Imp. to meet Wnsdy. evg. to consider "the best way of disposing of the Canal papers for future use, & how far & what part of them it may be proper to take notice of & preserve in the Society's publication." [*sic*.]

"Mr. Bradford to employ a person to summon the Committee & to know on what terms he will undertake to summon Committees occasionally."

£2 · 12 · 6 due W. A. Shettle for Copper delivered to H. Dawkins for engraving projections for the transit of Venus &c. was referred to Drinker & O. Biddle.

Advertisement of the Curators to be continued, under the Committee.

Committee on Seal desired to report at next meeting.

A collection of natural Curiosities presented by Ruth

Johnson, relict of Wm. Johnson. Curators to make a list & return thanks.

Com. on Pub. differing—it was “after a good deal of debate” agreed that O. Biddle’s Transit Observations should come in immediately after Ewing’s, in p. 78.

1770. *May* 18. (Rhoads, V. P. in the Chair; O. Biddle, Drinker, Jones, Clifford, Wynkoop [*sic*], Morgan, Alexander, Bradford, Thomson, W. Smith.)

Com. for Am. Imp. reported that the Canal papers & reports “should be abridged and preserved for future use among the printed Transactions . . . Drafts of Canals &c. should be reduced to a convenient scale and engraved for the Illustration of the other Papers, and the satisfaction of those who wish well to the Improvement of the Province.—The Expence of this part of the Publication, the Com. think may be defrayed out of the Residue of the money contributed by the Merchants . . . provided the assent of the Merchants can be obtained for this appropriation.”—Report agreed to. Rhoads, Lukens, Clarkson, Gilpin, Fisher, Hollingsworth, Ewing and Secretaries, to abridge and prepare the Canal Papers for publication; Fisher and Clarkson requested to reduce the drafts & maps.—This Committee to meet May 25th—Drinker, Clifford, Wynkoop, and Fisher, to get the Merchants’ consent.

“That part of the Committee’s Report, which recommends it to the Society to take such steps as they may think consistent with the Plan of their Institution to forward the opening a Road between Peach Bottom or Nelson’s Ferry Sasquehannah [*sic*], and the Navigable Waters of Christiana Creek, is left for the further Consideration of the Society.”

V. P. to sign an order to pay Strettel’s account.

Committee on Seal requested “to finish that Service against next meeting.

Curators read the list of Curiosities from Mrs. Ruth Johnson, “& are desired to enter the List in their own Books.”

Maskelyne's Observations of the Transit at Greenwich, and the Observations at Providence, R. I. were communicated, and referred to the Com. of Ast. to be extracted for the Transactions.

[Here follow D^r Smith's extracts, occupying 3 pages. See Trans. Vol. I.]

"The Society . . having the Pleasure to find that the Observations of the Transit of Venus made by their order in this Province, were so well received by the Royal Society, & were likely to be of Service to Astronomy, as well as to promote the Credit of this Society; and considering further the great Importance of connecting all their three Observatories, by some actual measurements, in such a manner that the Latitude & Longitude of each of them might rest on the same sure foundation, & all of them, agreeable to the desire of the Astronomer Royal, be connected with the Meridian [*sic*] Line of Messrs. Mason and Dixon—Messrs Owen Biddle, Joel Bailey & Richard Thomas were appointed to take the Courses & Distances from New-castle Court house to the State-house Observatory in the most careful & accurate manner; & D^r Smith, John Lukens, Esq. & M^r Rittenhouse are appointed to take the Courses & Distances accurately between Norriton Observatory & that in the State-house Square. And the Society will defray the Expence of these measurements."

1770. *June* 1. (Bond, Rhoads; Ewing, Clifford, O. Biddle, Hollingsworth, M. Bartram, I. Bartram, Bringham, Drinker, Kuhn, Williamson; D^r Smith.)

Committee on Seal was continued & was desired to perform that Service against next meeting.

Com. of Ast. to meet Wnsdy. "to determine what part of M^r Ben. West's account of the Transit of Venus, observed by Him & others at Providence, New England, shall be inserted in the Transactions . . ." Maskelyne's to be inserted entire.

Newcastle measurement committee had done their work and would report at next meeting.—Biddle's expense account "in the whole £11 .. 14 .. 4," was referred, examined, found just, and ordered paid.

"An account of the Quantity of *Home-spun* manufactured for the Inhabitants of Lancaster from May 1, 1769 to May 1, 1770, with a particular List of the names of the Different Families who had manufactured any part of the same,

and the number of yards of each Kind made by each of them, with the Stuff yet at the Looms, & the yarn in the House belonging to the said year, all digested with much care and accuracy into Columns & with proper Heads" in a letter from Wm. Atlee Esq. of Lancaster, was read. The Secretaries were desired to publish the same with a short Introduction of thanks to Mr. Atlee and the inhabitants of Lancaster "for their Industry, hoping their Example may be of public Benefit at this Time, & convince every one of the many Resources which the People of this Province have in their Power, if they are not wanting to themselves."

"Mr. Atlee's letter is as follows viz."—[half page blank.]

"Mr. Ewing communicated an Extract of a Letter from Dr. Franklin . . viz" [one blank page]

1770. *July* 20. (Rhoads, Bond, Alison, Williamson-Syng, Ewing, O. Biddle, Jons [*meaning Jones*].)

The Seal Com. produced two sketches. Dr. Alison added to the Committee.

Newcastle report would be presented at the next meeting, when Mr. Biddle "expected the Norriton Committee would report their Survey from Norriton to Philadelphia."

Accounts of Transit Obs. so far as printed, to be laid before the Assembly. "Astronomical Committee" to meet next Monday "to prepare an address to the Assembly to accompany the said Transit-Papers."

Extract from Franklin's letter postponed.

1770. *Aug.* 17. (Drinker in the Chair; Ewing, Davidson, Bradford, Williamson; Dr. Smith.)

"The Astronomical Committee are desired to prepare the Address . . . and to present the same to the House, with such Corrections as the Vice presidents may think proper, without waiting for any future meeting of the Society. And all the Transit Papers to be bound neatly and presented with the Address."

Rittenhouse's account of the late Comet ;—

Rittenhouse's deduction of the time of the Sun's passing the Meridian from equal altitudes without the use of the Tables of the Equation of Corresponding Altitudes ;—

Lord Stanhope's Observations of the Transit of Venus and of the late Comet ;—all three papers communicated & referred to the Com. of Astronomy.

The Norriton measurement committee reported, and the report was ordered to be published.

Williamson's paper "attempting to account for the Change of Climate in the Cultivated Parts of North America" was referred to Com. of N. H. & Chemistry.

Jas. Smither's bill for engraving a plate of the Transit of Mercury, £3 · 10, reported reasonable, and the V. Ps. to sign an order on the Treasurer.

1770. Oct. 19. (Bond, Rhoads; Williamson, Rush, Jones, Ewing, Jon. Smith, Bradford, Dr. Harris; Dr. Smith, Thomson.)

Com. to address the Assembly reported that they had presented the Address & publications, "with all which the members had expressed themselves well pleased." [The address, one page long, is pasted to the bottom of the page, and folded in, upwards. The blank intended for its engrossment is at the top of the next page.]

The Ast. Com. to be called to consider Rittenhouse's and Lord Stanley's papers.

Report of Com.—That Williamson's paper on the Change of Climate ought to be published among the Transactions. So ordered.

Williamson & Hopkinson added to the Committee on Seal.

Canal-Papers Com. called for Tuesday evening next.

"A Catalogue of such Foreign Plants as are worthy of being encouraged in our American Colonies, with Directions for bringing over Seeds & Plants from foreign Countries in a state of vegetation," in a pamphlet sent by the Hon. Thos. Penn Esq. to the Society, was presented by S. Powel Esq.

“an abstract of which was ordered to be prepared by the Secretaries to be inserted in the Transactions, & Mr. Powel is requested to return the thanks of the Society to Mr. Penn for this mark of his notice & approbation of the Purposes for which the Society is instituted.”

1770. Nov. 2. (Rhoads, Bond; Dr. Smith; Rush, O. Biddle, Shippen, jun, Williamson, Clifford, Fisher, Rhea, Jon. Smith, Coombe, Bradford, Alison, Morgan.)

Abstract of Canal Papers read & ordered to be printed. Fisher's map ordered to be engraved.

Alphabetical List of Members, and Officers, also the laws, ordered to be published with the Transactions.

Seal Com. empowered “to fix on such Devices as they may see proper, & get it engraved without further delay.”

“Effects of the Strammonium [*sic*] or Thorn apple” by Dr. Rush, read & referred to Med. Com. to report.

Com. of Ast. ordered “to collect into one General View the Times of the Contacts of the Limbs of the Sun and Venus” &c. &c. “to see what Parallax of the Sun these distant observations will give . . .”

1770. Nov. 15. (Rhoades; Allison, Semitier [*sic*], W. Shippen jun. Rush, I. Bartram, Jon. Smith, Paschall, Williamson, Clarkson, O. Biddle, Jones; Dr. Smith.)

Rush's paper pronounced by the Med. Com. to be ingenious and deserving a place in the Transactions.

Ast. Com. report “[as in pa: 12th of the Appendix to Astronomical & mathl. papers in ye Society's Transactions].”

Dr. James Smith's letter to Dr. Shippen jun. recommending Sam. Felsted* [*sic*] “an ingenious young gentleman” as a “Correspondent member,” and sending by Capⁿ Barber as a specimen of his abilities “a small Box containing a delineation of a few Butterflies of this Island [Jamaica.] . . you may easily perceive what such a Genius is capable of performing should it attempt the Natural History of this

* This name is spelled *Filsted* in proceedings of January 18, 1771.

Island . . ." — "N. B. An under & upper View of 28 different Butterflies accompanied his letter."—Thanks ordered.

Clarkson & Rush to collect delinquent dues.

"On Comets and Fire," a paper by Dr. Williamson, referred to the Com. of Ast. & Chemistry.

"Ordered that no pieces be printed in the present Volume that are communicated after this night".

1770. Dec. 2. (T. Bond, Alison, Ewing, Clifford, O. Biddle, Jones, Jon. Smith, Williamson, Morgan, Bringham, Simitiere [*sic*], Aspden, Fisher, James, Drinker; Dr. Smith.)

"Enquiry into the Nature, cause & cure of *Angina Suffocativa*," by Dr. Bard, jun. of N. York, referred to Med. Com. to print in Vol. I. "it being considered as a paper that was formerly intended for the society, but delay'd by Accident."

The Report of the Committee on Williamson's paper, was read and approved.

"The managers of the scheme for promoting the Culture of Silk . . . first set on foot by this Society, presented, for their Inspection, the Silk which had been prepared and reeld [*sic*] by them on the Public account during the last season, and the Society expressed their satisfaction with the Progress made in this Design, and as the Silk appears good in quality and very neatly done up, they are in great hopes that the Culture of Silk will soon become a valuable addition to the productions of this Province."

1770. Dec. 21. (Bond; Clifford, Aspden, Jon. Smith, Bradford, P. Eugene Du Simitier [*sic*], Morgan; Dr. Smith.)

Election appointed to be in the Hall, and advertisement ordered.

Vice-President, Secretaries, Curators Dr. Morgan and Jon^a Smith a Com. "to settle the advertisment to be prefixed to the Transactions, & revise the list of Members before it is printed off—to meet on Monday next at 6 o'clock."

1771. Jan. 4. "*At the Society's Hall.*" (Lukens, Rittenhouse & Coombe, Judges; Jones & M. Bartram, Clerks of Election.)

President, Benjamin Franklin Esq. LL.D., F.R.S. &c.

V. P.—Rhoads, T. Bond, Galloway.

Sec.—W. Smith, Rittenhouse, Ewing, Jones.

Cur.—W. Shippen jun., Rush, Kuhn.

Treas.—Thomas Combe [*sic*].

1771. Jan. 18. (Bond, Roads [*sic*]; Combe, Evans, Morgan, Lukens, Clifford, Drinker, O. Biddle, Cl. Biddle, I. Bartram, Hollingsworth, Syng, Mr. Physick, Mr. Jacobs, Fisher, Bringham, Gilpin, Fooks, Davidson, Williamson, Simitier, Aspden, I. Smith, Khun [*sic*], Dr. Shippin [*sic*] Junior, Dr. Smith, Rittenhouse, Ewing, Jones.)

Dr. Smith's "account for cash advanced by him on the Survey from Norriton to Phil^a & planishing a Copper Plate, amounting to £6 · 5 · 6," referred to Gilpin & Drinker.

R. Kennedy's account, £16 · 5, referred to the same.

Election of 15 new members:—Dr. Morton of Jamaica; Dr. Jas. Lloyd of Boston; R. Thomas, of Chester Co.; Henry Hill; W. Parr; S. Rhoads Jun.; T. Preston; H. Bembridge; J. Baynton; Dr. S. Preston Moore; Jos. Otolenge, of Georgia; Nevel Maskelyn [*sic*]; S. Filsted, of Jamaica; Dr. Gloucester* of Antigua; & Fred. Marshall of N. C.

Syng's accounts referred to Drinker & Fisher.

Order in favour of R. Kennedy for £10.

1771. Feby 1. (Syng, Fooks, J. Smith, Physick, Rhea, Simitiere, Rittenhouse, Jones; Dr. Smith.)

Audit. Com. find £6 · 5 · 6 due to Dr. Smith. Ordered paid.

Coomb's Met. Obs. at Phila. Dec. 1770 to Jan 15 1771.
"See Trans. Vol. I. Appendix, p. 70."

*Spelled *Gloster* in proceedings of March 16, 1770.

Bradford's accounts for printing to be audited by Dr. Smith & Mr. Fooks.

A Copy of Trans. ordered to be "presented to the Proprietaries, the Governor, to each member of Assembly, the Assemblies Library [*sic*], the Library of Philadelphia, to the Library of every College, in America, to the Royal Society of London, each of the foreign Philosophical Societies and to the Pennsylvania Hospital; the Secretaries to have the care of presenting these Books."

Rittenhouse's paper relating to Birds being charmed by snakes was read.

1771. *Feb*^o 17. (Bond; Shippen jun., Kuhn, Coombe, Alison, O. Biddle, Simitiere (*sic*), Williamson, Jon. Smith, Dr. Witherspoon, Physick, Morgan; Dr. Smith, Ewing, Jones.)

D^{rs}. Smith, Morgan and Kuhn, were appointed a committee to bring in "a List of the most considerable Philosophical Societies in Europe."

Jas. Smither's account, £13..3, referred to Dr. Smith Simitier (*sic*) & O. Biddle.

An order was drawn on the Treasurer for Henry Dawkin's account for engraving, (£7..10, see above.)

"Agreed; That a person be employed by the Treasurer and Dr. Smith to go round with the Transactions and deliver them to the Members upon Receipt of arrearages due before the 1st of Jan^y, 1771."

Syng's bond was delivered up to Mr. Physic, "he having faithfully discharged his Trust."

Repairs on the Observatory to be directed by Dr. Smith & Mr. Ewing.

Hall & Bradford to "give their opinion, at what price the" Vol. of Trans. "can be sold at the most moderate Rates to report at a Special Meeting, Friday next.

1771. *Feb*^o 22. *Special Meeting*. (Dr. Redman in the Chair; Alison, Kuhn, Rush, Bembridge, Bradford, O. Bid-

dle, Fooks, Morgan, Pearson, Drinker, Clarkson, Simitier, Williamson, I. Smith, Coombe; Dr. Smith, Jones.)

List of most considerable Philosophical Societies, reported:—Royal Societies at Stockholm, Upsal, Berlin & Göttingen; Imperial Society of Petersburg; R. College of Physicians in London; Society for promoting Arts & Manufactures, London; Philos. Society, Edinburgh; Dublin Society; Acad. Nat. Curiosorum; Society at Berne; R. Acad. Sc. Paris; Acad. of Bononia; Acad. Sc. at Turin; Acad. at Florence; British Museum; Universitys (*sic*) of Oxford, Cambridge, Dublin, Edinburg, Glasgow, St. Andrews and Aberdeen,—“to which copies of the Transactions are to be presented, together with those to the persons and Institutions mentioned in the minute of the first Instant, to which Disposition the Society concurred.”

Smither deducts 40 sh. from his account. Ballance (*sic*) ordered paid.

Mr. Clarkson exhibited an account of cash expended on the Survey from Apoquiming to Bohemia, £47·1·11. “Ballance” £2·18·1 ordered paid to the Treasurer.

Price of Transactions fixed at 15 shillings.*

Drinker, Fisher & Bradford, to wait on the Merchants, for the remainder of the subscription to the Surveys, and present those not members with a Volume of Transactions.

Copies of the Transactions to be presented to Buffon, Ferguson, Fothergill, Linnæus, Hahn, Maskelyne, Richard Penn, Sir Geo. Saville, and Ben. West.

Rhoades, Smith, Drinker, Kuhn & the Treasurer to examine Bradford’s account & “the State of the Society’s Funds”; also Jas. Pearson’s account.

“The Secretaries reported that this day they waited upon the hon^{ble} House of Assembly of this Province and in the Name of the Society presented a Volume of the Transactions to each Member; and to their Library, together with the following address; Viz^t.—[Address of half a page follows.]

Advertisement to “be inserted in the papers next week,

* [Two dollars.]

informing the Public, that the Transactions are ready for Sale at Mr. Bradford's."

1771. *March 1. Society's Hall.* (Bond; Coombe, Redman, Shippen Jr., Physick, Fooks, Wyncoop, Clarkson, Clifford, Simitier; Jon. Smith, Jones.)

Committee on State of the funds continued.

"Mr. T. Coombe, Treasurer, delivered to Dr. Bond, V. Pre. his Obligation in *five hundred Pounds* for the faithful discharge of his Trust; Mr. Philip Syng was bound with him."

1771. *March 15.* (Rhoads, Bond; Coombe, Lukens, Morgan, Khun [*sic*], Clifford, Redman, Clarkson, Simitiere [*sic*]; Smith, Rittenhouse, Jones.)

Form of letter to accompany the Trans. to Foreign Societies and Gentlemen, to be drawn up by the Secretaries.

Dr. Peters's account for Rent, £12; order drawn.

1771. *April 5.* (Bond; Shippen, Khun [*sic*], Bradford, Smith.)

H. Dawkin's engraving bill, £1 · 2 · 6; order drawn.

Michael Cirbet's bill for "a year's attendance on the Society, and for three sh. paid by him for hawling Wood" \$5.00; order drawn.

1771. *April 19.* (Bond; Kuhn [*sic*], Shippen, Clifford, Jon. Smith, Bringhurst, Duffield; Smith, Rittenhouse.)

Soc. for the Culture of Silk in Norwalk, Conn., by letter, requested some White Mulberry seed and pamphlets. Smith, Clifford & J. Smith to answer and send seed and pamphlets.

"Order signed on the Treasurer" for Nevel's copperplate printing bill, £20 · 7 · 6.

1771. *May 3.* (Bond; Clarkson; Rittenhouse.)

John Arbo's letter & present. Thanks voted.

Note.—"For particulars of which ['curious and valuable present'] see a List of Communications published by The Society 19th Dec^r. 1771. J. T. C."

1771. *June* 21. (Bond ; Alison, Kuhn, Coombe, Williamson, Clifford, Fooks, Alexander, Bradford ; Dr. Smith, Rittenhouse, Jones.)

Specimens of Flint Glass from W. H. Stegle, manufactured by him, at Manheim, Lancaster Co. Coombe, Rittenhouse, Williamson “to examine them and publish an account thereof in the next papers.”

“Some remarks on some obvious Phenomena of Light” in a letter from Hon. Cad. Colden, Lt. Gov. of N. Y. referred to Smith, Rittenhouse & Williamson.

Mr. Dickinson’s telescope to be returned to him by Dr. Williamson with thanks. Expense incurred by Dr. W. “on act. of said telescope to be defray’d by the Society.”

“Mr. Bradford is desired to send a number of the Trans. to Boston, S. Carolina & where else he has reason to think they will meet with ready sale ; 25 copies to each place.”

1771. *July* 19. (Alison in the chair ; Dr. Ch. Moore, Clifford, I. Bartram ; Smith, Rittenhouse, Jones.)

“Specimen of Siberian Barley with some account thereof” presented by Bartram.

“On the nature of the Worms so prejudicial to the Peach Trees for some years past, and a method for preventing the Damage in future,” in a letter from Jos. Cooper, N. Town, Gloscester Co., N. J. to Mr. Clifford. Ordered to be published in the Pennsylvania Gazette and Journal.

1771. *Aug.* 16. (Bond ; Clifford, Clarkson ; Smith, Jones.)

“A case of an Abscess in the Lungs, of long standing, attended with very alarming symptoms, remarkably relieved, during this Season, by drinking and bathing in the Bristol Waters” in a letter from Dr. DeNormandie [*sic*] to Dr. Bond.

Order drawn on S. Taylor, bookbinder, to deliver 6 copies Trans. to Mr. Clifford.

“Whereas, this Society . . . desirous to promote the Inland Navigation of this Province, at considerable expense

made several Surveys . . . being informed that there is a probability of joining the Navigation of Susquehannah and Schuylkill, by a canal between the Quitipihilla Branch of Swatara and Tulpehocken, and, as the . . . Assembly . . . were pleased to appoint a Committee for examining the place aforesaid among others . . . The Society do therefore request M^r. Lukens the Surveyor General to attend the said Committee and give all the Assistance in his power . . . His Expenses will be defrayed by several public spirited persons . . .”

1771. Oct. 18. (Bond ; Coombe, Clarkson, Williamson, Duffield, Bradford, Lukens ; Smith, Jones, Ewing.)

List of outstanding debts called for.

Franklin's letter, that he had received a box of eleven copies of Trans. & had delivered most of them. Ordered that the copies designed for Foreign Socs. & Universities be sent without loss of time to D^r. Franklin.

1771. Nov. 1. (Rhoades ; Pemberton, O. Biddle, Jon. Smith, Bringham, Williamson, Rush, Fisher ; D^r. Smith, Ewing.)

Account of a machine for working a number of scythes with a horse, in a letter from the inventor, John Jones of Indian River to O. Biddle. The model to be exhibited at the next meeting.

A letter attempting to illustrate the Doctrine of Tides, from S. Cunningham of Mountjoy in Lancaster Co. to M^r. Ewing ; read and referred to the Ast. Com. ; M^r. Ewing to convene them for that purpose. [Blank half page.]

Nairnes' Rain-Gauges ordered to be committed to the care of Lukens, Rittenhouse, O. Biddle, Bringham, Williamson & Kinnersley “to be put up under such inspection as they shall agree upon, for observing the quantity of rain that falls at different heights, agreeable to M^r. Nairnes' request, and D^r. Heberden's experiments in the Philosophical Transactions.”

V. P. Secs. & Pemberton to “prepare an address to the Governor requesting his Patronage.”

1771. Nov. 2. *Society's Hall*. Com. met and prepared the Address, adjourning to meet “here” at 12 o’c the 4th to present it.

1771. Nov. 4. *Society's Hall*. Rhoades & Bond V.P. “with the Secretaries, Curators, Treasurer & a number of the members met & waited on his HONOR the GOVERNOR with their address, which was received by him in a very obliging manner. The address was as follows :

To the Honorable Richard Penn, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, & Commander in Chief, of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of New-Castle, Kent & Sussex on Delaware,

The Address of the American philosophical Society held at Philadelphia for promoting useful knowledge.

MAY IT PLEASE THE GOVERNOR,

As we partake in the general Satisfaction arising from your appointment to the Government of this province, we wait upon you with our Congratulations on your safe arrival & our best wishes for the Success and Happiness of your Administration.

The Experience of the most civilizd [*sic*] Nations hath shewn the Usefulness of literary Societies for encouraging Arts, promoting a Spirit of Enquiry & bringing men of Merit into public View ; nor have crowned Heads thought it unworthy of them to be enrolled as patrons & protectors of such Societies in their respective Dominions.

Desirous, in like manner, of obtaining Countenance from the powers that are in Authority over us as well as of manifesting all due Respect to them, the Governor of this province, for the Time being, is, by one of our fundamental Articles, constituted PATRON of our Society ; and we Solicit your Acceptance of this Office with the greater Confidence, as your Character & Disposition give us reason to hope, that you will not consider the Encouragement of useful Improvements in the province over which you preside, as the least honorable of the Duties belonging to your high Station.

Signed in Behalf & by Order of y^e Society

THOMAS BOND } V. P.
SAMUEL RHOADS }

1771. Dec. 6. *Society's Hall*. (Rhoads; O. Biddle, J. Smith, Clifford, Williamson, Bradford, Ewing, Jones.)

J. Jones' "Model of a Machine for mowing with a Horse," was presented & referred to the Com. of Husb. & A. Imp.

Ast. Com. report on Cunyngham's [*sic*] paper called for.—Thanks to M^r. Nairne of London reported sent.—R. Kennedy's account, £8 .. 15, reported just and order drawn.

"Path of a solar Shadow on a horizontal plane," a paper in a letter from Andrew Oliver of Salem, N. E.

"A small quantity of American Asbestos, found near Newbury, some prepared in Wick for lamps, & some for Writing paper," from Andrew Oliver; referred to the Coms. of Ast., & Husb. & A. Imp.

"The Draft of a Vessel for sailing on the Ice," in a letter from a person at Canogocheague to I. Bartram; referred to Committee of H., & A. I.

"The Model of a Machine for weighing loaded Waggon," presented by the Commissioners of the County of Philadelphia, upon Condition that they & their successors in office may at any time have recourse to the same.

Williamson's account of payments for repairing & returning Dickenson's Telescope, 5 shillings. Order drawn on the Treasurer.

List of Papers & Presents ordered, to be "inserted in the Pennsylvania Gazette & Journal [published 19th December]."

1771. Dec. 20. (Redman in the chair; Williamson, Bradford, Rittenhouse, Ewing, Jones.)

Ast. Com. reported Cunningham's [*sic*] Explanation of the Theory of Tides, "concise & intelligible, altho' in effect the same given by writers on that subject."—M^r. Oliver's Delineation of a Solar Shadow they find "more minutely discussed by him than any author that has fallen into their hands. [M^r. Oliver's Delineation not returned by M^r. Ewing.]"

Committees of last meeting continued.

“On the Variation of the Compass,” by Dr. Williamson; paper referred to the Ast. Com. “& the Dr. to convene them.”

“An Account of the Countrey [*sic*] of the Illinois,” in a letter from Thomas Hutchins, Eng., to Mr. Ewing; referred to the Committees of Husb. & Am. Imp.

Election of Officers ordered in the Hall, public notice to be given in the Penn. Gaz. and Journal.

PROCEEDINGS ANNO 1772.

1772. Jan. 3. *Society's Hall*; Bond, Alexander, Fooks, judges; Bradford, Jones, clerks.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President, Benjamin Franklin, LL.D., &c.

Vice Presidents, Rhoads, Galloway, Bond.

Secs. W. Smith, Jones, Shippen, Jr. Moore.

Curs. Rush, Alexander, Rittenhouse.

Treas. Coombe.

1772. Jan. 7. (Ewing, Clifford, Morgan, Rittenhouse, Coombe, I. Bartram, Alexander, Bradford, Williamson; Jones.)

“Observations upon the Spots on the Sun’s Disk,” from Nov. 15 1770 to Dec 25, 1771, in a letter from Humphrey Marshall of Chester Co. referred to the Ast. Com.

Com. on the State of the Society’s Funds not having reported, Rhoads, Coombe, Drinker, Khun [*sic*], Morgan & J. Smith “have that service committed to them to exhibit to the next meeting an exact state of all accounts . . . monies due to, and by this Society . . .”

1772. Feb’y 7. *Society's Hall*. (Bond; Coombe, Ewing, Williamson, Morgan, O. Biddle, Lukens, Rittenhouse, Bradford; Jones.)

Ast. Com. report that they “think the carrying his [Wil-

liamson's] proposal into Execution would be of general Utility, contributing greatly to the Perfection of Navigation & Surveying, therefore they recommend it to the Society."—Ordered, that Williamson's paper on the Variation of the Magnet be published in the Penn. Gazette & Journal with an advertisement earnestly requesting "the ingenious & learned, thro' the several Colonies, to favour them with their magnetical Observations, in the course of the present Year, & hope for the Continuance of their Correspondence."

Rittenhouse communicated "Various astronomical Observations, made in Canada by Captn. Samuel Holland, Surveyor General of the District of Quebec, Lieut Haldimand & Ensign Sprowle," from January 1765 to May 24, 1770.

The Ast. Com. reported that H. Marshall's "Observations on the Solar Maculæ appear to have been made with great Care & Industry, & may be of some service in determining various Questions concerning the Theory."

"Accounts of the Transits of Venus & Mercury, a solar Eclipse & meteorological Observations, from Jan 1. to Dec 31, 1771, in a letter from "the Rev^d. Mr Sam. Williams of Bradford, in the Massachusetts-Bay" to Dr. Williamson, was referred to the Ast. Com. & thanks ordered. "As the above mentioned Letter came by Post and cost the Dr. 6 · 10, an order was drawn in his favor [*sic*] upon the Treasurer for that sum. [Dr. Williamson has these Papers, J. T. C.] "

"The Committee upon the Accounts is continued, & Mr. Morgan is desired to summon them to meet at Mr. Coombe's at 10 o'clock on Monday morning."—"Agreed, that a Special meeting of the Society be held this Day sennight at 6 o'clock in the Evening, to receive & consider the Report of the Committee of Accounts of which *public* Notice to be given."

1772. Feb'y 14. *Special Meeting in the Society's Hall.*
(Bond; Coombe, Morgan, Rush, Bradford, Williamson, Hollingsworth, Clifford, Rittenhouse; J. Smith, Jones.)

Com. of Accounts reported a sketch of the State of the Society's Debts &c. "The Company present divided the List of members amongst them, and are appointed to receive the outstanding Subscriptions together with any Gifts or Advance of annual payments they can procure."

Bradford agrees to buy 100 Transactions at 10 shillings each.

1772. *Feb'y 21.* (Rhoads, Bond ; Coombe, Morgan, Williamson, Preston, Bartram, Alexander, Wynecoope [*sic*]; W. Smith, Jones.)

Order drawn on S. Taylor bookbinder to deliver 100 copies Trans. to Mr. Bradford.

"Seeds & dry'd Flowers of the *Somo* or *Skimmi* & some branches of the *Emetic Bear*," from Dr. Lorrimore of Pensacola, referred to C. of N. H. & Chemistry. [In Dr. William-son's possession.] "

1772. *March 6.* *Society's Hall.* (Bond ; Coombe, Rush, Williamson, Bradford ; Jones.)

Bradford acknowledged receipt of the 100 Transactions.

Corbet's bill for Wood &c. 8 .. 9d ordered paid.

"An Enquiry into the Method of preventing the Effects of Cold on the Human Body" by Dr. Rush, referred to C. of N. H. & C. "which the Dr. is to convene this Day sen- night. [Dr. Rush had this paper back.] "

"Mr. Felsted of Jamaica having sent *Ten Shillings* to pay his *annual* payment the Treasurer is desired to deliver a Volume of the Transactions upon Receipt of said money, but Mr. Felsted is to be informed that there remain Ten Shillings yet due from him for *Entrance Money*."

1772. *April 17.* *Society's Hall.* (Coombe in the chair, Penington [*sic*], H. Drinker, O. Biddle, Khun [*sic*], Alexander, Bradford, John Drinker, Simitier [*sic*], Redman, Hillegas, Rittenhouse, Evans, Rush, J. Smith, C. Biddle, M.

Bartram, "Mr. J. Paschal, Mr. J. Paschal" [*sic*]; Dr. W. Smith, Jones.)

Election of 12 new members:—Lieut. Stephen Adye of the R. Artillery;—Mr. Jesse Lukens of Phila.;—Mr. Daniel Coxe of Trentown [*sic*];—Mr. Lane of London;—Lieut. Thomas Hutchins of the 60th Regiment;—Mr. Peter Dolland of London;—Mr. Archibald McClean of York county;—Mr. Gerard Bancker and Capt. John Montresor of New York;—Col. Henry Laurens and Dr. George Milligan of S. Carolina;—Rev^d Mr. Samuel Williams, Massachusetts-Bay.

"Six colored Prints from a large work intituled *Musæum Britannicum* which he is preparing for the Press" from Taylor White Esq. of London. The Treas., Secs., Khun [*sic*] & Simitier to answer said letter.

1772. May 1. *Society's Hall*. (Bond; Alexander, Ewing, Bradford, Rittenhouse; W. Smith.)

A letter from Franklin.

A letter from Rev^d Mr. Ludlam, Prof. Ast. Cambridge relative to the Vol. Trans. with "his Astron. Obs. Theory of Hadley's Quadrant, Essays on ultimate Ratios, & a Magazine containing a paper of his relative to the Trans. of the Society."

A letter from Samuel More, Sec. Soc. Arts in the Strand.

A letter from J. R. Forster, presenting Halm's travels, Bossu's travels, a Catalogue of Amer. animals, a Catalogue of Plants, & a Centuria of new Insects.

"Mr. Small's circular Scheme for noting the Variations of the Barometer & recommended to be used by the Members" [*sic*].

Royal Soc. presented Vols. 59 & 60 Trans. "for our Volume."

Two Pair of Snow Shoes presented by Jas. Dickinson.

An Indian Hatchet of stone presented by Israel Jacobs.

"All the above Articles were referred to the Consideration of the next Meeting, &, as the different Communica-

tions are very respectable to this Society, the Members present, are desired to take Pains to get as many Members together as they can against the Time, when they are to be more fully examined.”

1772. *May 15. Society's Hall.* (Bond; Alexander, Bradford, O. Biddle, Khun [*sic*]; W. Smith & Jones.)

Consideration of presents referred to a fuller meeting.

Dr. Sandiford of Barbados [*sic*] returns thanks for his election, will pay any dues, and applies for a copy of the Transactions.

Coburn's bill for Candles £1 .. 16 .. 9, ordered paid.

Secs. report sending in a box to Franklin & Falconer 18 copies Trans. for the foreign Universities, and Academies, & 9 copies for Dr. Franklin; each with the following address prefixed:—"The American Philosophical Society held at Phil^a. humbly desirous to cooperate wth [the Society's name] in their laudable endeavors for the Advancement of useful Knowledge, request y^e learned and respectable Body to accept this Vol. as the first Fruits of their Labors in this new World.—By order of the Society—William Smith, Robt. Strettell Jones, Secretaries."

1772. *June 19. Society's Hall.* (Bond; Coombe, Rittenhouse, Alexander, O. Biddle, Bradford, Rush, Ewing; Smith, Jones.)

Vice President reported that he had officially requested the Governor to be present, but "that thro' the Hurry of Business he feared he should not be able to attend, but would endeavour to be present at some future meeting."

Communications by Dr. Bond:—List of Royal Society of London;—Letter from Dr. Burgeus, Stockholm, with his Descriptions of the Plants at the Cape of Good-Hope and Essay on Ipecacuanha;—Dr. Sandiford's account of the Epidemic in Barbados.

Communications by Dr. Smith:—Letter from Dr. Wran-

gel, with an account of methods of bathing in Sweden ; and a pamphlet of Exercises, delivered at Upsal.

Priestley's New Treatise on Optics, from the author.

The 6 colored prints (April 17) were of the male and female Cow Deer, the female Moose Deer, Tarandus, Elk and Rain Deer [*sic*].

Mr. Bradford requested to apply for either the money or the copies sent away for sale.

1772. August 21. *Society's Hall*. (Coombe, Rittenhouse, Bradford ; Jones.)

Letter from And. Oliver of Salem relative to his lately published (in Boston) Essay on Comets.

1772. Dec. 18. (Rhodes [*sic*]; O. Biddle, J. Smith, Rush & W. Smith.)

A paper by Dr. Tilton of Dover on an extraordinary case of hydrophobia, was referred to the Med. Committee.

PROCEEDINGS ANNO 1773.

1773. Jan. 1. *Society's Hall*. (Bradford, O. Biddle & Duffield, judges, Bond & Jones, clerks.)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President, Benjamin Franklin, Esq. LL D &c.

V. P. Galloway, Rhodes [*sic*], Bond.

Sec. W. Smith, Jones, O. Biddle, Rush.

Cur. Rittenhouse, Duffield, Alexander.

Treas. Coombe.

1773. Jan. 15. *Society's Hall*. (Galloway, Rhoades [*sic*], Dr. Bond, Coombe, Rittenhouse, Morgan, Ewing, Rhea, Mr. Smith, Bradford, Adye, Redman, Mr. Bond, White, Miles, Lukens, Jesse Lukens, Peters, Duffield, Physic [*sic*]; Dr. Smith, Jones, Rush.)

Extract from Franklin's latter to Galloway :—

"I must now beg leave to recommend to your Society *Baron de Kliengstadt* of Petersburg who has lately travelled thro' England to collect Improvements in Husbandry &c. Being acquainted with him I took the Liberty of requesting his Care of our Book directed to the Academy of Sciences at Petersburg, & I gave it to him open as he expressed a Curiosity to read it. He was so pleased with it & conceived so high an Opinion of the Society that he desired the Honor [*sic*] as he politely expressed it, of being a Member, offered to correspond with the Society, & send them from Time to Time any Information, Seeds or other things they might want from Russia."

Election of 9 new members :—Timothy, Baron de Klingstedt, Counsellor of State to the Empress of Russia, Petersburg &c; Mons. Le Rey, Vice Director Academy Sciences, Paris; Hon. And. Oliver, Boston; D^r. Torbern Bergman, Prof. Math. Stockholm; Alex. Small, London; D^r. Jas. Tilton, Dover; D^r. Nich. Way, Wilmington; Rev^d W. Ludlam, Leicester; Rev^d Thomas Coombe, Philada.

Letter from J. Leacock about "his Scheme of establishing a *Public Vineyard*." The Secs. to "inform him that they approve the encouraging the Culture of Vines & wish him the greatest Success, but, as Lotterys are contrary to the Laws of the Province, they cannot countenance his Undertaking."

Mayer's Treatise approving the Transit Observations of the Society & confirming them, was communicated in a letter from Rev^d M^r Farmer to D^r. Bond.

"Agreed unanimously—that an *Annual Oration* or Dissertation be delivered upon the 3^d Friday of January, upon some literary subject, by a Member, to be previously appointed by the Society."

"The *Oration* which D^r. Smith had prepared for this evening was adjourned to Friday next, of which public Notice is ordered to be given, his HONOR the PATRON being prevented from attending."

Extract from DeNormandie's letter to Bond describing "a preternatural Birth," near Bristol, with drawings.

1773. Jan. 22. Society's Hall. "His HONOR the PATRON

being present together with a considerable Number of the Members & many other Gentlemen, both Strangers and Fellow Citizens, The Rev^d Doct^r. Smith delivered his *Oration* agreeable to order."

1773. Feb. 5. *Council Chamber in the State House.* (Rhoads [*sic*]; Coombe, Alexander, Clarkson, Wyncoop [*sic*], Duffield, Rev^d M^r. Coombe; D^r. Smith.)

Ordered to print 500 copies of the Oration.

An address to the House of Assembly, to be drawn up & presented by D^r. Bond & the Secretaries, "acknowledging the kind assistance they (the Assembly) have heretofore given to this Society carrying on the Designs of their Institution, & praying some farther Help to enable us to discharge the heavy Debts still due for our first Publication & to prosecute our Undertaking the better for the Future."

The Treasurer to make out his accounts & moneys due; Morgan & Jones to assist.

"An account of the *Electrical Eel* or *Torpedo* of Surinam," in a letter from D^r. Bryant of Trenton [*sic*] to D^r. Duffield.

1773. Feb'y 19. *Society's Hall.* (Bond; Coombe, Biddle, Ewing, Clarkson, Rittenhouse; D^r. Smith, Jones.)

The V. P. reported the presentation of the Address [which follows, occupying one page]:

To the Honorable the Representatives of the Freemen of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met;

GENTLEMEN, As we must always think it our Duty most gratefully to acknowledge the early Countenance and liberal Assistance, which, as a Society, we have received from former Assemblies of this Province; nothing could induce us to make further Applications for public Aid but the Necessity of our Case & a firm persuasion that the present Members of your honorable House still view our Institution in the same friendly Light as your Predecessors have done. We would not therefore repeat on this Occasion, what we have formerly taken the Liberty to represent to them, concerning the Use of *public Societies* for promoting useful Discoveries, domestic Improvements & the Reputation of those Countries where they have been established: We rather hope that we may be allowed now, as

an Instance of this, to mention our own Society, which has already promoted several useful Undertakings, & by some of its Productions, especially those relating to the Transit of Venus, has extended the literary Fame of our Country to distant parts of Europe.

Distant Ages will certainly do honor to the Assembly of *Pennsylvania* for having encouraged the Observations of the Transit in this Part of the World, which in other parts (tho' indeed under many Disadvantages, & therefore with less Success) were carried on chiefly at the Expence of crowned Heads. As these Observations could never have been undertaken by our Society, in so many places, without such public assistance, we hope the House will give us leave to observe that the erecting our different Observatories, fitting up Instruments, engraving various plates & publishing the different *Transit-Papers*, cost us (exclusive of the other part of our publication) near *Four Hundred* pounds, & have involved us in a Debt which we are wholly unable to discharge.

We therefore pray that your honorable House would give us such Assistance as in your Goodness you shall judge proper, to enable us to discharge the said Debt, & to prosecute our plan for the future, without having Occasion to solicit any other Assistance, besides the Annual Subscriptions of our own Members.

February 11th, 1773. Signed by Order & in Behalf of the Society.

THOMAS BOND, V. P.

Com. on Accounts continued.—Treasurer requested to employ Andrew M^cNair as collector, at 5 p. c. commission.

Biddle and Clarkson to get the Design of the Seal in Jones' possession executed without delay.

Bond & Smith desired to recover from I. & J. Paschall "any minutes or other Papers which they may have belonging to the Society and have them deposited in the Cabinet."

"Design for a Fireplace of a new Construction by Ebenezer Robinson," communicated by M^r. Biddle; thanks ordered.

1773. *March 5. Society's Hall.* (Rhoades [*sic*], Bond; Alison, Duffield, Clifford, Mifflin, J. Smith, Alexander; Jones, O. Biddle.)

Com. on Accounts continued.—Treasurer absent, no report respecting M^cNair's appointment.

"The House of Assembly had been pleased to pay such Regard to the petition of this Society as to order the Sum of

Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds to be paid by the Provincial Treasurer for further carrying on our Designs. Mr. Rhoades had delivered the Speaker's certificate for that Sum to our Treasurer."

Com. on Seal reported that they had the Design, and were requested to have it executed in the best and most expeditious manner.

The Paschall Com. reported "that they had delivered the 2^d Vol. of Minutes (which the Doctor brought with him) & would endeavor to procure the other Volume."

"The Society taking into consideration the great advantage that might be derived to the Public from Premiums granted to encourage the manuring of worn out Lands, which has been done with abundant Success in several parts of Europe by *Marle* & other composts, appointed Mr. Rhoades, Dr. Alison, Messrs Clifford, Mifflin, Alexander & Biddle a Committee to consider of such Improvements in Agriculture as will be most likely to succeed in this Province & of the Premiums to be granted for that Purpose, of which they are to report at the next Meeting."

Alison, Duffield, Smith & Jones, "to confer with such persons in this City as are concerned in the *Paper Manufactory* on the most probable Means of firmly establishing that branch of Business amongst us: they are to report at the next Meeting."

1773. *March* 19. (Bond, Rhoades; Alexander, Gilpin, Jones.)

Com. for settling the Treasurer's accounts still continued.

"Mr. Rhodes informed the Society that Arthur Donaldson, of Southwark, is constructing a Machine for Cleaning Docks &c. with which some experiments have been made that give foundation to expect Success; the Society, desirous to encourage so useful an Invention, appointed Dr. Bond, Messrs. Rhoades, Gilpin, Hollingsworth & Fisher to examine the same and report thereon at the next Meeting."

The Paper Com.—“Robert Bell waited upon the Society, this Evening with a Plan for encouraging the Undertaking.” Adopted “with a few Alterations,” and ordered to be published in the several Newspapers of this City. [The Money to be paid in Premiums is subscribed by Messrs. Crukshank, Dunlap, Hall, Bell & Humphreys, & M^r Bell engages to collect it whenever the Society pleases, as will more fully appear by the Subscription Paper delivered, by order of the Society, to the Treasurer.]”

R. S. Jones “communicated a letter from Rev^d James Manning, Prest. of Rhodeisland [*sic*] College, returning the thanks of that Corporation” for Trans.

R. S. Jones “communicated a letter from Rednap Howell of Boutetourte Co. Va. treating of a Moss used in dying Purple, and of a Silk reel invented by himself.” Referred to C. of Husb. & Am. Imp. “Papers containing sundry specimens of Nat. Hist.” enclosed in the letter were delivered to M^r. Alexander, Cur. for examination.

“M^r. Gilpin is requested to provide a plain Bookcase for the Use of the Society.”

Marle from near Wilmington & “*Alum* from the Banks of Monongahela” were “thankfully received & deposited in the Cabinet.”

1773. *April 2.* (Rhoades; Alison, Clifford, Rittenhouse, Ewing, Alexander, Clarkson, Hollingsworth, Jones; Biddle, Rush.)

Alexander’s bill for ink & a blank book, 10 .. 1, ordered paid.

Com. on the Donaldson Machine requested to report.

“Hints for improving the present State of our Agriculture, with a sketch of such Premiums as may be proper to excite the public attention &c,” read by Alison & referred to the C. on H. & A. I. to meet next Friday, 7 P. M.

“Account of an *Aurora Borealis* observed by him at Bradford, N. E. July 25, 1772, and of a remarkable Child born

at Woburn, N. E. April 1772, with an exact Drawing of the same," in a letter from Dr. B. Thompson of Concord, N. H.

The Secretaries are requested to examine the Newspapers for an Advertisement sometime ago published by a Person in Maryland, who proposes for a certain price, therein mentioned, to search for Marle, thro' America, and report to the next Meeting."

1773. *July* 18. (Williamson, Alexander, Gilpin, Lukens, Bradford, Rittenhouse ; Smith, Rush & O. Biddle.)

"Model of a Bridge," with a letter from John Jones of Indian River ; referred to C. on Mechanics. Thanks ordered.

Donaldson's Dredging Machine Model was presented and referred to Rhoades, Fisher, Gilpin, Rittenhouse, Lukens, Pryor, Clifford, Jon. Smith, Hollingsworth, Duffield, Powell, R. Smith, Dr. Smith, Ewen and O. Biddle to examine and report.

Application to be made to Jacob, the Sexton of Christ Church, to take charge of the Key of the Society's Hall.

"Enquiry into the cause of Sleep & Dreams," by Dr. Rush, referred to the Med. Com.

"Experiments & Obs. on the Mineral Waters of Phila., Abingdon & Bristol," by Dr. Rush, referred to Com. N. H. & Chemistry.

A variety of subjects of Nat. Hist. from Geo. Gauld of W. Florida, with letter & list, delivered to the Curators. "Mr. Williamson acquainted the Society that Mr. Gauld had paid him two half Johannes as a present to the Society."

"A draught of Chester & Middle rivers in W. Florida," taken by Lieut. Hutchins, N. S.

"A description of the Coast of W. Florida," by Mr. Gauld, N^o. 1.

"A measurement of the height of the Blue Mountain & Catharine Hill," N^o. 2.

"A Shark's Jaw ; a skin of the Shagreen Fish ; & a Por-

cupine fish." All the above presented by Mr. Gauld through Dr. Williamson.

"A specimen of *Asphaltes* found in E. Florida," presented by Mr. Bainbridge.

"Meteorological Obs. &c. N^o. 4," in a letter from Sam^l Williams of Bradford, N. E.

"Experiments & Obs. on Evaporation &c. N^o. 5," both communicated by Dr. Williamson.—All referred to Com. on Geog., Math., N. Phil., & Astronomy.

"A specimen of Sinopian Earth, Antimony Ore, & Alum Bark," in a letter from Rednap Howell.

[*Here are inserted, out of place, "Minutes for May."*]

"On the variation of the Compass," in a letter from Lord Stirling to Dr. Smith.—Smith, Rittenhouse & Clarkson, "to consider his Lordship's proposal."

"Chart of the Stars used in finding the Longitude by the Moon invented by himself," in a letter from Sam^l Dunn of London; "also a print containing a view of an Electrometer contrived by W. Henly &c. with a letter on Atmospheric Electricity."

"Ordered that an advertisement be put in the Papers by Dr. Smith requesting such Persons as have anything to communicate to be speedy as a Volume is preparing for the press."

Sam^l Taylor's account was ordered to be paid.

1773. *July* 30. (Bond; Combe, Hollingsworth, Rittenhouse, Alexander; Smith, O. Biddle.)

Dr. Smith had called on Mr. Bradford to examine & report on his account. . . "Mr. B. had not prepared any account and seemed to decline it at present." . . . "The Society now desire that the same Committee viz. Mr. H. Drinker, Geo. Morgan & Dr. Smith do again call on Mr. Bradford and acquaint him, that untill his account is laid before the Committee & settled, they cannot give any Order to him for Money, & that it must be his own fault if there is delay in this matter."

Kinnersly, I. Bartram, Rittenhouse, Hollingsworth & O. Biddle, "to agree with the Owner of the Torpedo, on terms to make a Set of Experiments, with a view to determine the nature of the Shocks which it communicates . . . not exceeding £3 for that privilege; they are requested to call in to their assistance any gentlemen they think proper."

Com. on Donaldson's machine not fully prepared to report.

1773. *Aug. 20.* (Bond; Rob. Proud, Rich. Wells, Clarkson, Bradford, Alexander, Williamson; O. Biddle.)

"Mr. Bernard Romans attended the Society and promised to leave with the Secretaries a drawing of two Nondescript Plants, natives of Florida, one of which he has denominated the *Kalmia Floridiana*, & the other the *Lupinus Emiticus* seu *L. foliisternatis*, a description of which was now communicated."

"Also a paper containing an improvement on the Mariner's Compass."

"A Chart of the Navigation to, & in, the New Ceeded Countries," was exhibited by him, & Lukens, Rittenhouse, Wells, Clarkson, and T. Fisher were appointed to compare it with Mr. Gauld's account of the same country; also to consider their opinion of the Paper on the Compass.

"Mr. Christopher Collis attended, and applied to have" a Com. appointed "to examine a Steam Engine for raising Water, which he has erected at a Distillery in this City & to certify their opinion respecting it." Referred to Rittenhouse, Wells, Proud & Biddle.

Secs. to advertise Communications and presents, & request communicators to be speedy &c.

Dr. Williamson delivered to O. Biddle, Gauld's description of the W. Florida coast.

1773. *Aug. 25. Adjourned Meeting.* (Wynkoop, Jon. Smith, Wells, Dr. Smith; O. Biddle.)

Com. on the Collis Steam Engine reported that they had seen it “perform several strokes, tho’ some of the materials not being sufficiently large and strong, owing to his attempting the execution at a very low expense, it did not continue its motion long; but that a Steam Engine may be brought to answer the purpose of raising Water much cheaper than by Men or Horses is a fact well known, & we are of opinion that the undertaker is well acquainted with the principles of this particular branch of Mechanics, & very capable of carrying it into execution & therefore worthy of Public encouragement.”

1773. *Sep.* 17. (Ewing, Alexander, Bradford, Rittenhouse, Dr. Morgan, Geo. Morgan; Dr. Smith.)

The Abbé Rozier’s letter was read, “mentioning a new work in which he is employed of giving a Monthly Account of the Works of the Literati in different parts of the World, and desiring the Society to appoint some one to correspond with him & to send an Abstract of the most essential Articles of their proceedings. He also sends his two first publications for January & February.”—The Secs. ordered to draft an answer, saying the Society “intend publishing their works as often as they can make a small Volume,” from which he can make his own extracts.

Bradford’s account would be reported at the next meeting; the Com. being “of opinion that there will be due to Messrs. Bradford at least the Sum of £120, for which they have drawn on the Society in favour of Mr. Galloway, the Soc. therefore desire that the Treasurer may accept the same to be paid when he receives the £250 granted them by the House of Assembly.”

1773. *Oct.* 15. (Bond; Ewing, Coombe, Clarkson, Bradford, Alexander, Duffield; Dr. Smith.)

Jas. Gillingham’s bill for a pine Bookcase, £6 ordered paid.

Capⁿ Inglis was allowed, "for the encouragement of Navigation," to have the use of the Book of Tables of Parallax & Refraction, presented by the Univ. Cambridge, "to go his voyage to Jamaica," "upon his ordering a new Book of the same kind to be imported by the first Spring Ships to replace it. But this method of lending the Books of the Society to any but Members not to be drawn into precedent."

"On Tornadoes, Hurricanes & Waterspouts," a paper by Dr. Perkins of Boston; reading deferred.

"On the uses of Antiseptic Medicine," by Dr. Wright of Jamaica; also deferred.

Ordered that Doctor Peters' boy have 30 .. 6d.

Bradford's Accounts:—"Sales of 150 Phil. Trans. Sold in Boston 10; N. York 7; sent to Carolina 25; to T. Clifford 6; to Alexander, Thomson & Peters, 1 each; to Williamson 4; to Ph. Bond & Davidson, 1 each; to S. Taylor, imperfect, 2; Delivered Paper maker 1; on hand 24 = 84. Sold by Wm. & Thos. Bradford 66 @ 15 each, £49 .. 10. Commissions @ 5 p. c. £2 .. 9 .. 6.—Advertising 15 = £3 .. 4 .. 6. Net Proceeds £46 .. 5 .. 6.

[On the next page a balance sheet; Dr. side footing up £374 .. 2 .. 6. Cr. side, By sales £112 .. 10 .. 9 + Cash rec^d of members £6 .. 10 + Cash of Sundry Canal subscriptions £126 + By order in favor of T. Galloway £120 + Balance due W. & T. Bradford £13 .. 1 .. 9 = £374 .. 2 .. 6.—From this £2 .. 9 .. 6 was deducted "by abatement freely allowed for the Commissions charged on the sale of 66 Transactions.]

[The next page is occupied by a List of Canal subscriptions, names and sums ranging from £6 to £2 each = £126. And another list "not collected," amounting to £45.]

1773. Nov. 5. (Bond; Coombe, Clarkson, Jon. Smith, Morgan; Dr. Smith, O. Biddle.)

"On Waterspouts & Hurricanes," a treatise by Dr. J. Perkins of Boston, & "On Antiseptic Medicines," by Dr. W.

Wright of Orange Hill, Trelawny in Jamaica, which Dr Morgan returned.

“Owen Biddle brought and left with the Society the first Volume of the Minutes of one branch of this Society before the Union, which then subsisted under the Name of “a Society meeting weekly in the City of Philadelphia for their mutual improvement in useful Knowledge,” and includes a Journal of their proceedings from 22^d Septem^r 1758 to Octob^r 22^d 1762.”

1773. *Nov.* 18. (T. Bond, Jun^r Chairman; Smith, Morgan, Bradford, Alexander, Rush.)

“An enquiry into the Cause with an acc^t of the Efficacy of Liquid Laudanum in the Disorder bro’t on drinking cold Water;” paper by Dr Rush.

Smith & Rush to ask Thomson if he meant to deliver the Oration.

1773. *Dec.* 17. (Dr Bond, T. Bond, Smith, Wells, Bradford, Rush.)

“A plan of a Snow Plough,” was communicated by M. Rich. Wells.

“A case of an extraordinary mortification of the Uterus. Also a Description of an imperfect Fœtus,” from Jon. Elmes, M.D., of Cohansie.

C. Thomson having declined, Dr Rush undertook to prepare an Oration.

1774. *Jan’y* 5. (Wells, Jones, Duffield, judges; T. Bond, & Rush, clerks.)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President, Benjamin Franklin, F.R.S. &c.

V. Ps. Galloway, Rhoads [*sic*], Bond.

Secs. Dr Smith, Wells, Jones, Rush.

Curs. Duffield, Rittenhouse, Bond, Jun^r.

Treas. Coombe.

“After the Election . . Dr Smith delivered to the So-

ciety the following letters, Copies & Translations of which were ordered to be inserted in the minutes of the Society."

RICHMOND, Dec. 7th, 1773.

SIRS, I had the Honour to deliver to the Academies of Turin & Bologna in Italy & to the Grand Duke of Tuscany the first Volume of the Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, which Doct^r Franklin gave me for that purpose in London. Inclosed you will find the Answers from Bologna & Florence, and the Copy of that from Turin, as the original of it is in one of the 4 Volumes I had from that Academy for the American Society. The said 4 Volumes I shall take the first opportunity to forward to you, as soon as you will please to let me know by what Channel I am to send them. I have likewise 3 pamphlets written by Mr. Fontana, who has written many more, and every one containing some Discoveries, but he could not find the Others at that Time, and has promised to send them by the first opportunity. I shall reside in Virginia, & as I have engaged to forward to you whatever may be hereafter committed to my Care from that part of the World, So I shall esteem it a particular honour at all Times to be employ^d by the American Philosophical Society in the like service, I am with profound Respect

Sirs, Your most obedient

& most humble Servant

PHILIP MAZZEI.

[The next page occupied by a "Copy of the Answer of the R. S. of Turin to the A. P. S." and its translation.]

[The next two pages occupied by a letter "to the Illustrious &c. Members of the philosophical Society," signed Sebastiano Canterzani, Secy. Acad. Sc. Bologna, dated 18th Augt. 1773; and its translation.]

[The next two pages occupied by a letter "to the most honorable W^m. Smith & Robert Strettle Jones Secs. of the Philosophical Society, Felix Fontana, sends greeting," dated Florentiæ Idibus Junii.]

1774. Jan. 21. (Bond, Rhoads; Coombe, Rev^d T. Coombe, Dr. Smith, Peters, Redman, Morgan, Harris, Clifford, Wells, Fisher, Rittenhouse, Hillegas, Miles, Bradford, Duffield, Jones, Holingsworth [*sic*], M. Bartram, T. Bond, Jr., Rush.)

Election of 17 new members:—Earl Stanhope, Lord Mahon, Dr. And. Duncan of Edinbro'; S. Moore of London;

George Gauld & Bernard Roman* of Pensacola; Bryan Edwards, John Ellis & Dr. W^m. Wright, of Jamaica; Dr. Walter Jones & Dr. James McClurg of Virginia; Dr. Jonathan Elmer & Dr. W^m. Bryan of N. Jersey; John Jones of Maryland; Dr. John Perkins of Boston; Sharp Delany, James Bringhurst, Ben. Morgan, & Dr. Thos. Parke, of Philadelphia.

“An account of a Lunar Eclipse; Met. Obs.; & a hurricane in N. England,” in a letter from S. Williams of Bradford in N. E.

“Dissertation of an amphibious animal discovered in that County,” in a letter from Dr. J. Archer of Baltimore Co. Md. Also a stuffed skin of that animal.

1774. *Feb'y* 4. “Present all the Officers and a considerable number of the members of the Society, together with some strangers. Dr. Rush delivered an Oration entitled ‘An enquiry into the natural history of medicine among the Indians in North America, with a comparative view of their diseases & remedies with those of civilized nations.’” [Follows a note in lead-pencil, “See end of the ‘American Society,’ book Vol. I. for Min. of members of 18. Feb. & 4. March 1774.” This minute is as follows:—]

“The Acts of the British parliament for shutting up the port of Boston, for altering the charters, and for the more impartial administration of justice, in the province of Massachusetts bay, together with the Bill for establi^{ng} [*sic*] popery and arbitrary power in Quebec, having alarmed the whole of the American colonies, the members of the philosophical Society partaking with their countrymen in the distress and labors [*sic*] brought upon their country were obliged to discontinue their meetings for some months untill a mode of opposition to the said acts of parliament was established, which they hope will restore the former Harmony, and maintain a perpetual Union between Great Britain & the American colonies.”

* Spelled *Romaine* in the minutes of January 20, 1775, and *Romans* on those of February 18, 1774.

1774. Dec. 17. (Bond, "president;" Dr. Smith, Jones, Rev^d Mr. Coombe, Biddle, Duffield, Simitere [*sic*], Bradford, Rush.)

Morgan, Simitere, Rush, "to bring in a draught of a certificate to be sent to members upon their election into the Society."—Bradford & Simitere "to apply to proper person to engrave the said certificate."

The Secretaries to draught a letter of thanks "to those Gentlemen from whom they have received presents of any kind."

Dr. Smith to request Rittenhouse to deliver the Anniversary Oration for the ensuing year.

"On Longitude," a paper from Mr. Laurie of N. Y.

Books sent with a letter from Franklin:—(1.) The Compt of Buffon's Nat. Hist. of birds, with coloured plates from the author, 4 Vols. F^o.—(2.) Trans. R. S. London, 3 Vols.—(3.) Novi Com. S. R. S. Gotingensis, 3 Vols.—(4.) Obs. sur la physique &c. Abbé Rozier, 2 Vols.—(5.) Nouv. Mem. A. R. S. 1770, Berlin.—(6.) Ast. Obs. Greenwich, 1765 to 1769, Maskelyne, F^o.—(7.) Dunn's new Atlas of the Mundane System, F^o.—(8.) Opusc. phys. et chem. 8^o. from Lavoisier, with a letter from the author.—(9.) Von Stæhlin's Account of the Northern Archipelago lately discovered, 8^o. from Franklin.—(10.) W^m. Hewson's Exp. enq. into the Lymphatic system, 8^o. from his widow.—(11.) J. Walsh's letter to Franklin "of the electric property of the Torpedo," pamp. 4^o.—(12.) Sir J. Pringle's discourse on the different kinds of air, pamp. 4^o. from the author.—(13.) *Precis des recherches en France depuis l'année 1730 pour la determ. des longitudes &c.*, pamp. 4^o. from Le Roy the author.—(14.) "Some add. Obs. on preserving Seeds from foreign parts for the benefit of American colonies &c. by J. Ellis.—(15.) Bayley's advancement of the Arts.

"A COUNSEL [*sic*] of twelve persons every year," was proposed by Mr. Biddle, "whose business it should be to superintend the publication of the transactions of the Society,

and from whom the other Officers of the Society should be yearly chosen."

"Also that a LIBRARIAN be appointed to take charge of the books belonging to the Society, with power to lend them to the members under the same regulations as those of the city library."

1774. Dec. 23. "*Society's Hall.*" (Bond, president; Dr. Smith, Biddle, Morgan, Wells, Jones, Simitere, Duffield, T. Bond, Jr., Rush.)

Dr. Rittenhouse will deliver the Oration in a month.

Mr. Biddle's proposal "was put off for a larger meeting."

1774. Dec. 30. (Dr. Bond; Rhoads, Duffield, Delany, Mr. Bond, Allison [*sic*], Wells, Fooks, Bradford, Rush.)

The draught of certificate of membership was read several times, altered & adopted:—

"To all unto whom these presents shall come, greeting—The American Philosophical Society, held at Philadelphia, for promoting useful Knowledge, desirous of conferring upon a proper mark of their esteem and of attaching him to the Society have elected the said a member of the same, granting unto him the rights of fellowship with all the liberties and priviledges belonging thereunto. In Testimony of which (by order of the Society) we have subscribed our names & caused the seal of the Society to be affixed, this day of in the year of our Lord —
To be signed by one Vice President and one Secretary."

The following form of a letter of thanks was approved:—

"The American Philosophical Society, held at Philadelphia, for promoting useful Knowledge, have received by the hands of your acceptable present of for which they have desired their grateful acknowledgment to be transmitted to you by Sir your most humble servant.—To be signed by one Secretary."

Bradford & Simitiere "were desired to procure engraved copies of the certificate on parchment & of the letter of thanks on paper as soon as possible."

Franklin's letter to the Society containing queries from l'Abbe Reynall of Paris.

[See for this another place, under the same date.] It occupies pp. 168, 169, 170, 171.

[See end of the "American Society" book for Minutes of meeting of Jan. 6, 1775.]

[Page 172 is occupied by "An Account of such printed Books, Drawings &c. as have been presented to the Society," 19 in number, beginning with No. 1, Nov. 5, 1770;—No. 2, 17 April, 1772;—Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, June 19, 1772;—Nos. 7 to 19, May 1, 1772.]

[Page 173. Originally left blank, has lead-pencil notes in a modern hand. "Omissions. Minutes of the United Society from 18. Feby, 1774; 6 Jan. 1775 for choice of officers; 5 Jan. 1776, Do.; together with Minutes for March 1779; to Dec. 1779 Inclusive will be found on the End of the Early Minutes 1758 to 1761 of the Junto. Also some proceedings 1775 in a separate Book with list of Members Elected 1771, 2."]

[Pages 174 and 175 occupied crosswise with six-ruled columns of autograph signatures of the members of the six Committees. A seventh column is to be found on p. 176.]

(END OF VOLUME.)

1774.

[Begins a Volume of MS. Minutes.]

"Minutes of the American Philosophical Society omitted in the year 1774—viz"

1774. February 18. (10 present.)

Owen Biddle read Bernard Romans' letter with a figure of a new species of Floridan *Kalmia*, & a figure & description of the Semen Badiananisam Stellatum, or Illicium Floridianum.

"Rich. Wells communicated a paper offering some Hints for raising water in wells without the help of pumps or other machines" . . . referred.

The Officers, together with T. Coombe Jr., Dr Morgan, Dr Parks, Dr Kuhn, Owen Biddle and Charles Thomson, were appointed “a committee to consider and prepare the papers and Transactions of the Society in order for publishing,” and report.

Smith, Morgan, Drinker, appointed a Committee to audit the Treasurer’s accounts, & prepare a list of outstanding subscriptions.

Curators “desired to collect the Books and other Valuables belonging to the Society and place them in the Cabinet.”

1774. *March 4.* (6 present.)

Auditing Com. reported inability “to attend to the affairs of the Society this month, but will comply with their request as soon as possible.”

Mr Bradford will print the Vol. of Trans. on the following terms:—“He will furnish the Society with 12 or 15 copies for the foreign Academies, and each member with a volume on which he will charge nothing but his labor and the materials.”

1774. *Dec. 17.* (9 members: Dr T. Bond, president; Dr Smith, Mr Jones, Rev^d Mr Coombe, Mr Biddle, Dr Duffield, Mr Simitiere, Mr Bradford, & Dr Rush.)

Morgan, Simitiere, Rush, made a Committee to draft a Certificate of membership.

Bradford & Simitiere to employ an engraver.

The Secretaries to “bring in a draught of a Letter of thanks to those Gentlemen from whom they have received presents of any kind.”

“Ordered that the Rev^d Dr Smith request Mr David Rittenhouse to deliver the Anniversary Oration for the ensuing year.”

Dr Rush communicated a paper on Longitude from Mr Lawrie of New York.

Also a letter from Franklin [in Paris?] with: Buffon’s

N. H. of Birds, 4 Vols. F., from the author; Trans. R. S., London, 3 Vols.; Novi Com. S. S. Göttingensis, 3 Vols., 4°; Abbe Rozier's Observations sur la Physique, 2 Vols., author; Nouv. Mem. de l'Acad. R. d. S. et B. L., 1770, Berlin; Rev^d Nevil Maskelyne's Astron. Obs. at Greenwich, 1765 to '69, F., author; Sam. Dunn's Atlas of the Mundane System, 1 Vol., F., author; Lavoisier's Opuscules Physiques, 8°, with a letter from the author; Ivon Stählin's Account of the Northern Archipelago, Kamschatka, &c., from Franklin; W. Hewson's Exp. Eng. Lymphatic System, from his widow; John Walsh's pamphlet letter to Franklin on the Torpedo; Sir John Pringle's pamp. on Airs; Le Roy's Recherches . . . Longitudes, author; Dr Geo. Young's Garden at St. Vincent's described by J. Ellis; Bayley's Advancement of the Arts.

COUNCIL.—“*Mr. Biddle proposed to the Society the appointment of a Council of 12 persons every year, whose business it should be to superintend the publication of the Transactions of the Society, from whom the other OFFICERS of the Society should be yearly chosen.*”

“*Also, that a Librarian be appointed to take charge of the Books belonging to the Soc'y with power to lend them to the members under the same regulations as those of the City Library.*”

1774. Dec. 23. “*Society's Hall.*” (10 present; Bond presiding.)

Dr Smith said that Rittenhouse consented to deliver the Oration in a month.

Mr Biddle's proposals postponed to a larger meeting.

1774. Dec. 30. “*Society's Hall.*” (10 present; Bond presiding.)

Certificate of membership read, debated, corrected and adopted. [The form then follows in the minutes, and differs from the form now in use, thus:]

To all, &c. The American Philosophical Society, &c.,

“desirous of conferring upon ——— a proper mark of their esteem and of attaching him to the Society, have ——— elected the said ——— a Member of the same, granting unto him the rights of fellowship, with all the liberties and privileges belonging thereunto. In testimony,” &c.

Letter of thanks unanimously approved. [Form follows in the minutes:]

“The A. P. S. &c. have received by the hands of ——— your acceptable present of ——— for which they have desired their grateful acknowledgments to be transmitted to you by, sir, your most humble servant.” [Secretary.]

Bradford and Simitiere desired to procure engraved copies of the Certificate on Parchment, and of the Letter on paper, as soon as possible.

Franklin’s letter, containing queries from l’Abbé Raynall respecting the population, commerce and wealth of the American Colonies, which were considered, and the Society “agreed that they were not proper objects of the Society’s enquiries;” Secretaries directed to send to Franklin said resolution.

Franklin’s letter, with queries from the Marquis de Condorcet; translation in the minutes: “To Dr. Benjⁿ Franklin, You have here dear & illustrious brother, some questions which I take the liberty to propose to the Philosophical Society of Phila. and an answer to which I beg the favour of you to procure me:—1. Do the calcareous stones of the silex contain marine productions belong to known species found in the neighborhood of Philadelphia what elevation on the mountains depth . . are any fossil bones to be found 2. Any observations on the magnetic needle oscillations duration of the oscillation should be between $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 centuries 3. Height of mercury in the Barometer any singularity 4. Any free negroes who have *not* mixed with whites have their black children ‘retained the genius and character of the negroes’ . . If

men of genius and parts have been observed among them . . .
 5. Any Basalts & pumice in the mountains any coals
 above or below banks of shells" [The whole
 letter is curiously suggestive of the state and animus of
 French science in 1774.]

Franklin sent also a memoir of M. Daubenton (sent to him through M. Le Roy) at Buffon's request (with colored plates), "On the method of preserving birds," &c., with a request for "some natural productions of Pennsylvania" for the King's cabinet. [The note is translated in the minutes, dated July 20, 1773.] Smith, Lukens, Rittenhouse and Owen Biddle were appointed to answer Condorcet's questions as to Meteorology; Dr. Thos. Bond, Wells, Simitiere and Rush, those of Natural History.

Dr. Thos. Bond, Jun., Mr. Fooks and Mr. Delany were made a Com. "to look into the affairs of the Society."

1775. *January 6.* (No. list.)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President—Ben. Franklin.

V. Ps.—Josh. Galloway, Sam. Rhoads, Dr. T. Bond.

Secs.—Dr. W. Smith, R^t S. Jones, Dr. B. Rush, R^d Wells.

Curators—Rittenhouse, T. Bond, Jr., Duffield.

Treas.—Thos. Coombe.

1775. *Jan. 20.* (11 present.)

Drawing of *Ilicium floridianum*, by Bernard Romaine presented.

"A sufficient number of members to ballot for Candidates for a fellowship in the Society not being present the Society adjourned to Jan'y 28th."

1775. *Jan. 28.* (19 present; Bond presiding; Smith, Clifford, Rittenhouse, T. Coombe, Rev^d T. Coombe, Owen